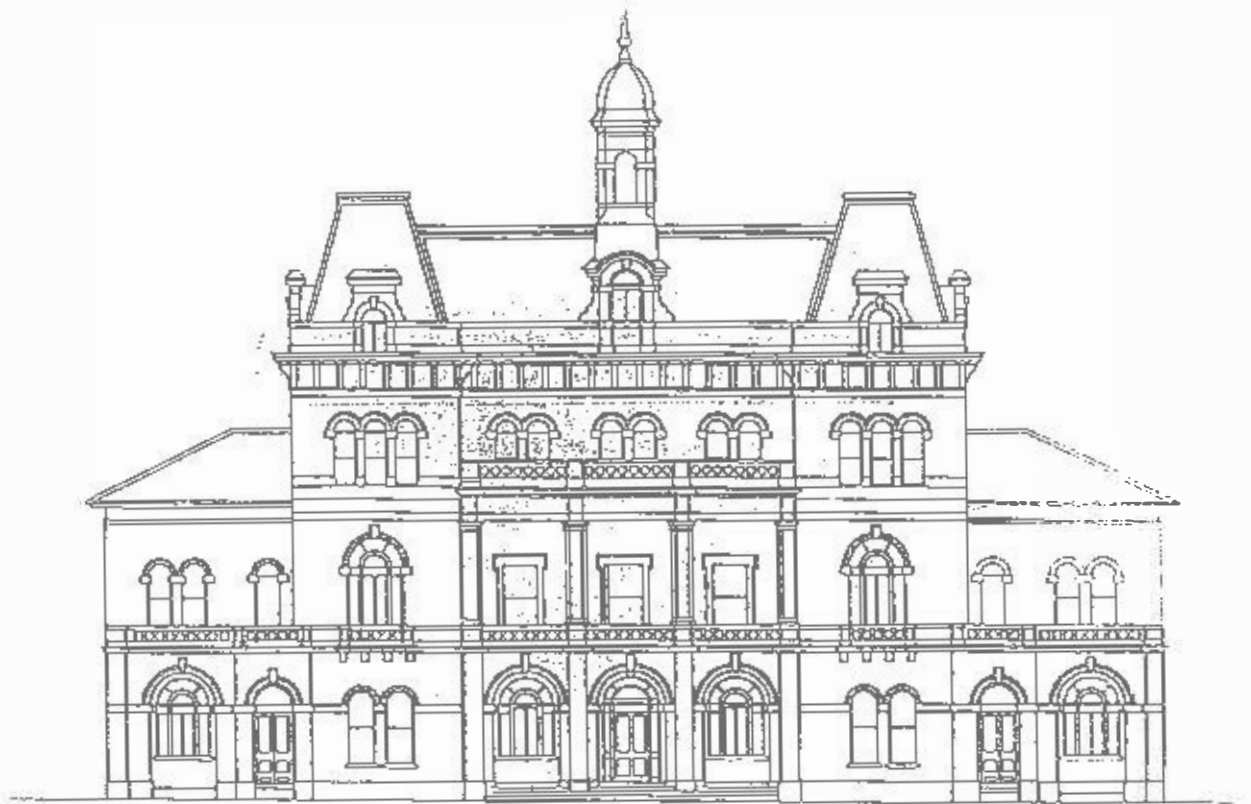


WILLSMERE

CONSERVATION MANAGEMENT PLAN



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Prepared for

CENTRAL EQUITY LIMITED

by

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1.0 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background and Brief

Following the decision to close the Willsmere Mental Hospital taken in 1986, the Victorian Government Major Projects Unit was assigned responsibility for overseeing the sale of the land for redevelopment. The hospital finally closed in 1988. In May 1990, the Jennings Group was chosen from a number of applicants, with a proposal for a combined residential, hotel and conference centre development, and ownership of the Willsmere site was formally transferred to the Jennings Group in June 1990. Because of the then economic climate, these proposals were not proceeded with, and the site was sold in February 1993 to Central Equity Limited.

Central Equity have carried out a residential development of the site, comprising conversion of the main hospital building and one of the outside wards to 154 apartments and construction of 109 new townhouses in the hospital grounds. The works were largely completed at the end of 1994.

The Historic Buildings Council issued a permit giving approval in principle for the development works in April 1993 (Appendix D). Among the conditions attached to the permit was a requirement that a conservation management plan be prepared, to address the whole complex, and separately address individual buildings, structures, works and historic landscape components. The plan was to include an interpretation policy and programme and a staged programme for future works requirements, to form a basis for estimating future annual and cyclical maintenance costs. The Body Corporate rules (Appendix E) include schedule 3 which relates specifically to the HBC permit conditions and conservation requirements.

This conservation management plan was commissioned by Central Equity Limited in October 1994. The purpose of the conservation plan is to provide a definitive document which addresses the significance of the site and buildings and provides a conservation policy and strategy. The plan is intended for adoption by Central Equity Limited and the Willsmere Body Corporate as a management document for the buildings and site to provide a framework in which future works affecting the buildings and site can be assessed.

Although it had been intended by the HBC that the conservation plan be completed at an early stage in the redevelopment programme, the commissioning of the plan by Central Equity, and its subsequent completion were delayed for various reasons. The result has been that the preferred use of the conservation plan as a management tool for assessing proposed development works has in this case not been possible. The detailed approach to the conservation of the existing structures and site at Willsmere and the design of new works was agreed progressively between the developer and the HBC, and this conservation management plan was developed to take into account the development works that were in progress while the plan was being prepared. The existing assessments of significance of the site have been reviewed in the light of the development works and further knowledge about Willsmere and other nineteenth century asylum sites in Victoria, and the conservation policy has been formulated accordingly.

The scope of this conservation management plan includes the land and buildings within the Willsmere residential development site, as shown on Figure 2. This site corresponds with the Willsmere Historic Building Zone defined under the Kew Planning Scheme. It does not include the 1856 gate lodge to the north, which is also designated on the Historic Buildings

Register, or the undesignated dalty to the south west, both of which lie outside the development area.

1.2 Previous Reports

The buildings and site have previously been the subject of a Conservation Analysis prepared by Best Overend and Partners and Dr Miles Lewis in 1988. This document has been the main source for historical and contextual information regarding the site. In addition, a series of submissions to the HBC and the Minister for Planning were made during 1993 by Willys Span-Keeble, the conservation consultant commissioned by Central Equity Limited, and by other consultants, in connection with the HBC Permit application and the subsequent appeal regarding planning permission.

1.3 Location

The Willsmere site is located in Sudley Park, Kew, between the Boulevard and the Yarra River to the west and south, the Eastern Freeway to the north and Kew Cottages and Princess Street to the east. The site is surrounded by the Kew Gardens housing development, completed shortly after the Willsmere development, on the north and west sides, and adjoins the Yarra Bend National Park to the south and west.

1.4 Heritage Listings

Historic Buildings Council

The Willsmere site, including designated buildings, was placed on the Historic Buildings Register on 12 February 1991. A copy of the HBC Statement of Significance is included in Appendix B.

National Trust of Australia (Victoria)

Willsmere is classified by the National Trust of Australia (Victoria).

Australian Heritage Commission

Willsmere is included on the Register of the National Estate.

City of Kew

The Willsmere complex is contained within the 'Willsmere Historic Building' zone pursuant to Clause 114 of the Kew Planning Scheme.

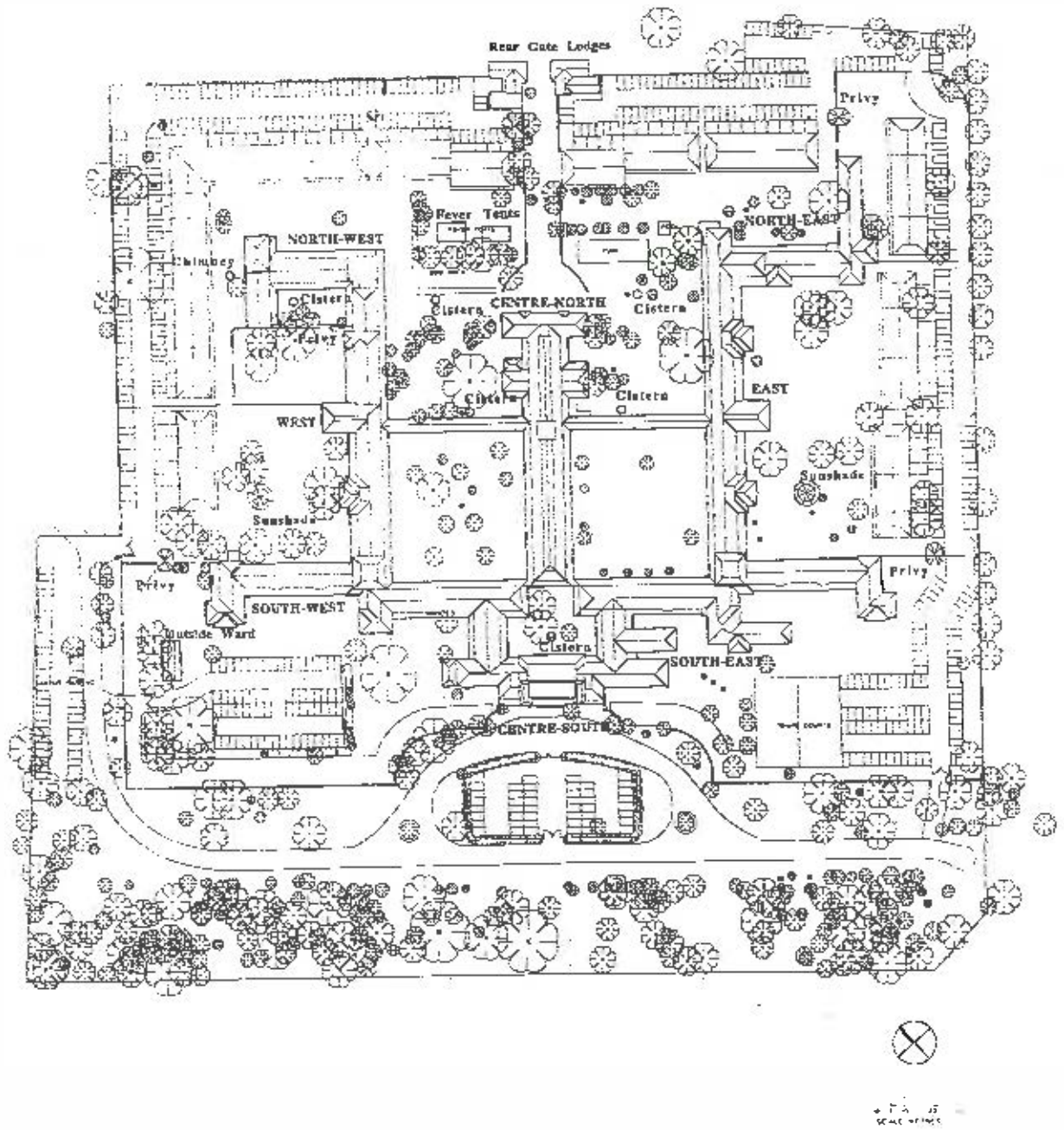


Figure 2 Site plan

1.5 Methodology

The report broadly follows the format of the Australia ICOMOS (International Council of Monuments and Sites) guidelines for the preparation of conservation plans¹ and the principles set out in the Australia ICOMOS *Charter for the Conservation of Places of Cultural Significance (Burra Charter)* adopted by Australia ICOMOS to assist in planning conservation of heritage places.

1.6 Terminology

The conservation terminology used in this report is of a specific nature, and is defined within the Australia ICOMOS *Charter for the Conservation of Places of Cultural Significance (the Burra Charter)* as endorsed by the Australian Heritage Commission (Appendix A). The terms most frequently referred to are: place, cultural significance, fabric, conservation, preservation, restoration, reconstruction and adaptation. These terms are defined in the charter as follows:

'Place' means site, area, building or other work, group of buildings or other works together with associated contents and surroundings.

'Cultural Significance' means aesthetic, historic, scientific or social value for past, present or future generations.

'Fabric' means all the physical material of the place.

'Conservation' means all the processes of looking after a place so as to retain its cultural significance. It includes maintenance and may according to circumstance include preservation, restoration, reconstruction and adaptation and will be commonly a combination of more than one of these.

'Preservation' means maintaining the fabric of a place in its existing state and retarding deterioration.

'Restoration' means returning the existing fabric of a place to a known earlier state by removing accretions or by reassembling existing components without the introduction of new material.

'Reconstruction' means returning a place as nearly as possible to a known earlier state and is distinguished by the introduction of materials (new or old) into the fabric. This is not to be confused with either re-creation or conjectural reconstruction which are outside the scope of this Charter.

'Adaptation' means modifying a place to suit proposed compatible uses.

2.0 REVIEW OF EXISTING ASSESSMENTS OF SIGNIFICANCE

2.1 Previous Statements of Significance

Two previous statements of significance have been prepared for Willsmere. The first is contained in the Kew Lunatic Asylum Conservation Analysis of 1988, and was prepared by Dr Miles Lewis. The second statement was prepared as part of the 1991 Report to the Minister for Planning in connection with the inclusion of the complex on the Historic Buildings Register.

2.1.1 Kew Lunatic Asylum Conservation Analysis, 1988

The statement prepared by Dr Lewis (see Appendix C) identifies the main points relating to the significance of the complex as a whole, and goes on to discuss the individual significance of a certain individual elements of the complex. As Lewis points out, even when viewed in isolation from the other elements, there are some structures at Willsmere which are of considerable individual importance.

The first part of the statement, under the heading 'The Asylum', identifies the international importance of the main asylum building as possibly one of the largest and most intact surviving examples in the world of the mid-nineteenth century E-plan asylum type, and the historical significance of the complex as the largest and most important of the nineteenth century asylums in Victoria. The elements and characteristics which contribute to this significance are identified, namely the architecture of the administration block, the landmark quality of the towers and roofs of this building and the ability of the building envelope to demonstrate the scale and layout of the complex, as well as the individually significant elements identified in the second part of the statement.

The second part of the statement addresses the individual significance of the original 1856 gate lodge, the iron water tanks, the fever tents and the grounds and landscaping. Of these, the elements of the highest significance are identified as the lodge building and the tanks, while it is suggested that superior examples of the other elements are to be found elsewhere in Victoria.

2.1.2 HBC Statement, Report to the Minister, 1991

This statement (see Appendix B) was based to a large extent on the 1988 Conservation Analysis and includes the same points made in the 1988 statement. It comments, as does the Lewis statement, that the Kew asylum derives particular significance for its scale, inaccess and landmark quality. In addition, this statement refers to the shift to grander architectural styles for institutional structures in the work of the Public Works Department in the 1860s and '70s. The statement refers to the Fever Tents, but does not include comparative assessment of the individual structures when compared with similar structures elsewhere.

2.2 Review of Assessments of Significance

The two previous statements of significance have been reviewed in the light of additional research carried out since 1991 on other asylums in Victoria and the impact of the 1993-4 development works on the complex.

Since 1991, a number of reports have been completed which assess the significance of the other principal nineteenth century asylums in Victoria at Ararat, Beechworth and Sunbury.¹ The previous statements of significance for Willsmere lack detailed assessment of the overall nature of the surviving complex at Willsmere as it compares with those at these other asylums. Willsmere was built as part of a large scale programme of construction of asylums in the 1860s and '70s, during which period large asylums of broadly similar nature were also built at Beechworth and Ararat. The Sunbury asylum was originally constructed in the 1860s as an industrial school and was expanded as an asylum in the 1890s. It is only indirectly comparable with the three earlier asylums in terms of either its architecture and planning or its historical development.

Of the three asylums built in the 1860s and '70s, Willsmere retains a more complete collection of original external elements than either of the other former asylum complexes. In particular, Willsmere is the only site which retains its original privies, and also retains more of the original perimeter and airing court walls than survive at Beechworth or Ararat. Furthermore, the vast majority of the later additions to the complex have been removed in the course of the recent development works, including all but one of the 1880s cottage wards and all of the twentieth century buildings, with the exception of the fever tents and the additional wings to the south-east of the main building. By default, therefore, Willsmere is distinguished from the other two complexes by its ability to demonstrate more clearly the nature of the *original* external layouts of the Victorian asylums, while the complexes at Beechworth and Ararat, which currently retain later nineteenth and twentieth century buildings, reflect better than Willsmere subsequent shifts in policy towards the care and treatment of the mentally ill. The 1994 works have included the insertion of new door openings in place of ground floor windows in the main building, but otherwise have largely retained and restored the original external features.

The original internal ward layout and finishes typical of the period are best demonstrated at Beechworth in the wards and laundry in the north female wing. They contain most of the elements of the original wards, including the patients' rooms doors, windows, vertically sliding shutters, fireplaces and painted exposed brick walls, and are by far the most intact of the interiors in all three of the nineteenth century Victorian asylums. All of the ward interiors at Ararat were modernised in the 1950s. At Kew, many of the interiors had previously been modernised and virtually all have been further altered as part of the 1993-4 works. Nonetheless, a high proportion of internal structural walls, columns and other original features is retained. The preserved ward interior at Kew retains some of the same features found at Beechworth, including painted brick walls and boarded patient's room doors, but lacks other original elements including the internal window shutters and the gallery fireplace. None of the original working areas at either Ararat or Kew, comparable to the laundry at Beechworth, survive intact.

Smaller structures added to the grounds at all three asylums in the nineteenth and early twentieth centuries included sunshades and fever tents. None survive at Beechworth, while there are surviving examples of both at Ararat as well as at Kew.

The following revised statement of significance takes into account the additional comparative information and the recent works. It forms the basis of the conservation policy contained in the following sections of the report.

2.3 Revised Statement of Significance

Willsmere, previously known as the Willsmere Mental Hospital, and originally as the Kew Lunatic Asylum, was opened in 1872. The design, based on the original scheme prepared in 1856 by the Public Works Department architect G W Vivian, was substantially reworked in 1864, apparently largely by Vivian's collaborator on the original scheme Frederick Kawerau. Willsmere closed as a mental hospital in 1988 and was redeveloped for residential use in 1993-4.

Willsmere is of considerable historical and architectural significance.

Willsmere was one of three purpose-built lunatic asylums designed in the 1860s for the Victorian government. Although Willsmere was the last of the three asylums to open, it appears to have been the first to be designed, and the designs of the other asylums at Beechworth and Ararat appear to be based on the Kew scheme.

Although a number of external alterations have been made during the 1993-4 works and earlier, Willsmere retains in largely intact form the main external elements of the original complex and is better able than the Beechworth or Ararat complexes to demonstrate the nature of the original external layouts of these institutions and of typical practices in the care of mental patients in the nineteenth century. These elements include the exterior of the main building, the airing courts, the divisional and boundary walls and subsidiary structures including the privies, sunshades and one of the later cottage wards. While the other asylum complexes retain in more intact form other elements such as original farm complexes, 1880s cottage wards and twentieth century developments, they retain considerably less of these key elements of the original complexes.

Although considerably altered internally during the 1993-4 works, and less intact than parts of the Beechworth complex, Willsmere retains a substantially intact ward interior which is able to demonstrate the living conditions experienced by asylum patients in the nineteenth century. Other parts of the interior retain sufficient original fabric to enable the original functioning of the spaces to be understood.

The architectural significance of the hospital derives mainly from its derivation from contemporary English models, its large scale and architectural character of the main administration block and the towers. The main building is by far the largest of the asylum buildings constructed in Victoria in the nineteenth century. Its E-shaped plan form and the planning of the wards, the dining wing and service areas derives from similarly planned mental hospitals in England, notably the large 1850s asylum at Colney Hatch, and demonstrates the colonial dependence on familiar English models of asylum design and operation. The architectural character of the complex, and particularly that of the administration block and the towers, demonstrate the stylistic shift that took place in the Public Works Department in the 1860s towards a grander style for institutional buildings. The design of the administration block and the towers are of interest for their atypical character and appear to reflect contemporary German architecture. The towers and mansard roofs are among the most prominent landmarks in Melbourne.

The prominent hilltop site is enhanced by the surviving areas of nineteenth and early twentieth century landscaping, particularly in front of the complex. While less significant than the landscaping at Beechworth, the layout of the turning circle and planting in front of the administration building and remnant indigenous and early introduced planting in the airing courts and elsewhere on the site demonstrate the importance placed on landscaping in nineteenth century asylums as a part of the treatment of mental patients.

The reuse of iron tanks, originally used as containers for goods being shipped to Australia, as water tanks is of technical and mercantile interest. The water tanks at Willsmere represent the largest and best documented known surviving example of this common nineteenth century practice.

The underground water tanks are of technical significance. Typical of those found at the other contemporary asylums, they demonstrate the efforts that were made to maximise self sufficiency in water at the asylums.

The fever tents were erected in 1908 in response to a typhoid epidemic at a time when typhoid was officially considered to be under control in Victoria. Along with the surviving examples at Ararat, they are of historical interest and demonstrate contemporary attitudes to the therapeutic benefits of fresh air in the treatment of disease.

3.0 PHYSICAL SURVEY

3.1 Introduction

A physical survey of the buildings and site was undertaken in order to assess the extent and nature of the 1993-4 development and remedial works carried out by Central Equity and to identify significant areas and individual elements. The objectives of the survey have been to establish as far as possible the degree of intactness of the existing fabric and layout, and the extent to which the original fabric survives and was conserved in the 1993-4 development works, and to assess the existing physical condition of the buildings and site.

3.2 Documentation

An incomplete set of the original working drawings of the complex, dated from 1864-76, and later drawings of subsequent additions and alterations is held at the Public Record Office. The Public Record Office also holds the Public Works Department Summary Contract Books 1859-1935, which contain brief details of contracts for building and landscaping works and supply of materials in connection with Willsmere. The c. 1890 MMBW plan shows the then layout of the structures and landscape, as well as some drainage details. A set of existing conditions survey drawings was prepared for the Public Works Department in 1984 by Gutteridge Haskitts and Davey Pty Ltd, Consulting Engineers. It is proposed that copies of all of these documents should be stored at the Willsmere archive centre.

The 1988 conservation analysis prepared by Dr Miles Lewis and Best Overend and Partners was the main source of historical information regarding the physical development of the complex. The bibliography lists the available primary and secondary source material. Copies of the 1988 conservation analysis and a selection of historic photographs and other historical source material is to be held at the Willsmere archive centre.

The basic documentation used for the physical survey was the set of contract drawings for the development works prepared in 1993 by Span Group Architects. The contract drawings included existing conditions plans and elevations showing the state of the buildings before work started as well as drawings showing the proposed alterations. A specification prepared by the conservation consultant Willys Span-Keeble and dated August and November 1993, for conservation and remedial works to the historic buildings, was referred to, although this specification was not formally part of the contract documents. Landscape drawings prepared by Holly Mitchell, landscape architect, showing existing conditions prior to the development works and proposed landscape works, were referred to. In addition, use was made of the March 1993 submission and addenda to the Historic Buildings Council in connection with the permit hearings and the submissions made in connection with the June 1993 appeal. The contract of sale document for the apartments contains additional information regarding the Body Corporate rules and other matters. Copies of these documents are to be held at the Willsmere archive centre.

The works carried out have conformed generally to the drawings in terms of plan layout and alterations to elevations. In terms of remedial works, and particularly wall repairs and some roof works, some of the work carried out was changed from details shown on the drawings and from the specification, as summarised in the following sections.

Other documentation of the development works, not referred to for this physical survey, includes a 1988 site survey by Breece Pitt Dixon, surveyors, building services drawings by A Lingard and Associates, civil engineering drawings, photographs of the development works in progress by the conservation consultant and others, and a video of the works taken in October 1994 shortly before completion. It is intended that copies of all of this material should be held at the Willsmere archive centre.

3.3 The Development Works

The 1993-4 development works were for conversion of the former Willsmere Mental Hospital site to residential use, and involved adaptation of the original buildings to 154 apartments and construction of 109 new townhouses around the outer perimeter of the site. Associated with the adaptation works were general remedial works to the fabric of the historic buildings and the site generally and restoration or reconstruction of previously altered fabric in a number of areas.

The following section summarise the nature of the development works in terms of the scope of demolition of existing structures, the adaptation works to each of the structures and the conservation and remedial works.

3.3.1 Demolished Structures

All of the intrusive later twentieth century buildings constructed within the grounds were demolished, together with several nineteenth century buildings. The twentieth century buildings included the VATMI industrial unit and surgical wards constructed in front of the east and west wings, and workshops, stores buildings and the boiler house to the rear. The demolished historic buildings were the chapel (originally a workshop) and two outside male wards adjacent to the north-east wing. These buildings, although designated for inclusion on the Historic Buildings Register, were assessed as having relatively little individual significance.

3.3.2 Adaptation Works

The conversion of the main building to apartments has involved substantial internal works to most areas, with extensive construction of new lightweight internal walls within existing spaces and limited demolition of existing brick internal walls, fireplaces and chimney breasts. The approach taken was to plan the individual apartments as far as possible within the existing spaces and to retain existing structural walls where possible. In most areas, the larger spaces, such as day rooms and dormitories, were retained with little or no demolition, and were subdivided to form apartments. The small individual patients' bedrooms originally located off the day rooms were most affected by internal demolition, most having been amalgamated to form larger rooms.

The internal fit-out of the apartments in most areas has a standard modern treatment. Most walls and ceilings are lined with plasterboard. Original internal window joinery, some original internal doors and other significant fabric such as decorative plasterwork and cast iron columns were retained or adapted. Although the apartment interiors generally are considerably altered, and most of the larger spaces were subdivided, in most areas it is still possible, with interpretive assistance, to understand the original uses of the various wards, day rooms,

bedrooms and other spaces. The original stair wells and other circulation areas have in most cases been retained with relatively little alteration to the original fabric.

The extent of external alterations was limited generally to the minimum necessary to adapt the building for the new use. The alterations have included insertion of new doors in place of original windows in the ward wings and other works as summarised in the following sections.

The works have included a complete replacement of services throughout the building, including new electrical and plumbing installations and installation of fire sprinkler equipment. Gas-fired balanced-flue heating boilers serving individual apartments were installed, mostly in the roof spaces. Flue gases are vented naturally with air flow through the original wall vents and new openings cut in the chimneys. On the east wings, where the chimneys had been demolished in the 1950s and '60s, ventilated ridge cappings were considered, but rotary cowl vents installed on the inner roof pitches were adopted instead.

Apart from insertion of 'Deluge' type roof lights at every second bay, the verandahs to the ward wings and the centre-north wing were returned substantially to their original configuration. Many Deluge type roof lights had been inserted in verandahs previously. The verandahs are divided into sections corresponding to title boundaries by low hairpin steel barriers based loosely on the design of the hairpin fencing to the front of the building.

Ward Wings

The external elevations of the ward wings, including the former laundry wing to the north-west, were altered by formation of new door openings at ground floor level, together with construction of new low-level steel access steps and platforms. New external doors are generally at original window locations and conform to the original width and height of the openings. Modern timber-framed and glazed doors and multi paned toplights broadly similar in detail to the original sashes are fitted to the new door openings. Approximately one-third of all of the ground floor windows were altered in this way. Except for two access platforms on the north-east wing, all of the new access stairs and platforms are constructed on the north facing elevations of the south-west and south-east wings. Several openings to stair lobbies and passages through the building were formed or widened.

Internally, the original plan form is substantially altered. The original small patients' bedrooms, which opened off large day rooms, have mostly been doubled in size by removing walls between adjacent rooms or opened out completely into adjacent spaces. Apart from the preserved museum and library area on the first floor of the south-west wing, the plan form of the patients' rooms survives only in some of the first floor bathrooms and studies in the west, south-east, east and north-east wings. The original large day rooms with columns and galleries generally were subdivided. Some of the day room and associated dormitory projecting wings on the outward-facing elevations retain much or all of the original plan form.

A large number of new stairs, both within double storey apartments and for access to first floor apartments, were constructed. These are simply detailed with steel posts and stringers supporting timber treads. In most cases, the original stairs within the wards were retained in largely intact state. The exceptions are in the east and west towers, where originally there were two sets of stairs giving separate access to the paying patients' wards in the front wings and the paupers' wings to the rear. The paupers' stairs were removed, and new floors constructed at first floor level. This action was taken in order to enable widening the

originally narrow passage from the airing court side of the wing to the outer side, which was considered to pose a safety problem.

Some original or early panelled or boarded doors were retained or recycled to new locations as entry doors to apartments, and some of the intact first floor patients' rooms retain their original boarded doors. Generally, however, the apartments have new flush doors. New door openings, even where an early door was fitted, were distinguished from original openings by colour coding, doors in new openings being painted a lighter green than the original doors.

Centre-South (Administration) Wing

Conversion of the former administration wing has largely retained the original form of the external elevations and internal walls. The front elevation remains substantially intact. The three entrances to the front, comprising the original central entrance to the administration offices and the two separate male and female patients' admissions entrances to each side were retained. The rear elevation was previously altered in 1914, when the stair to the east of the entrance hall was removed and the original tall arched stair window corresponding to the existing window to the west was altered. A new arched door opening was inserted in the centre of the elevation to form a passage from the main entrance through the former caretaker's room to the rear, and fitted with a modern aluminium-framed door.

Internally, the first floor cross corridor and the ground floor side entrance halls were divided by division walls between the apartments and new stair enclosures serving the adjoining wings encroach on the east and west rooms to the rear. A number of rooms were subdivided by construction of bathrooms and store rooms. Some new openings were formed and original doors built up. The door openings between the ground floor corridors and the apartments were built up behind the retained doors. Apart from these alterations, the plan form of some of the spaces remains largely intact, and generally the plan form of the administration wing is less altered than in the other wings.

Centre-North (Dining Hall and Kitchen) Wing

The centre-north wing previously comprised the double height dining hall, scullery and kitchen, occupying most of the wing to the south, and the stores to the north. Although the dining hall remained largely intact, the kitchen and stores areas had been previously considerably altered. The dining room was converted to three double height and four single level apartments, and a new first floor and internal walls were inserted into this space. Some timber roof trusses are exposed at first floor level, while others are concealed within new partitions. The original plaster arches and other high level mouldings and the timber dado to the original dining room walls remained, except for the mouldings to the large arched niches at each end of the dining room, and were retained. The original stair at the south-east corner was retained, and new steel-framed stairs, as for the ward wings, were constructed.

The lower ground level apartments at the north end of the wing largely retain the original plan form, coursed rubble-faced bluestone walls and brick vaulted ceilings. The remainder of the stores and kitchen area was subdivided by new internal walls and little original fabric remains visible apart from windows and some roof trusses.

As with the ward wings, new ground floor door openings were formed at original window locations and roof lights were inserted in the verandah roofs. The louvred vents to the clerestory roof were removed in sections and replaced with glazing lighting the apartments

below. The remaining sections of louvres were glazed inside. The timber-framed laylights above the former dining room originally had flyscreen inserts, and these were replaced with translucent glazing. Concrete loading docks constructed over the basement light wells were removed and damaged or missing gratings were replaced.

Subsidiary Structures

Rear Gate Lodges

The two gate lodges flanking the original rear entrance were renovated as single residences. The relatively intact original brick sections were preserved externally, and new weatherboarded extensions were added to each house. The interiors of the houses were previously substantially altered and the interiors were assessed as having little significance. They were completely refurbished in similar style to the apartments in the main building, with plasterboarded walls and ceilings with coved cornices.

Fever Tents

The two fever tents were retained on their existing sites and are used as a meeting room and gymnasium.

Female Outside Ward

The 1885 female outside ward located near the south-east wing was retained and converted to a single small residence. Two additional outside wards on the male side, adjacent to the north-east wing, were demolished as part of the 1993-4 works and another outside ward, apparently built also in 1885, had previously been demolished. Some verandah columns and diagonal cross cast iron balustrade panels from the demolished wards were reused in a pergola constructed near the original site next to the north-east wing.

The retained ward was converted to a small single residence. The interior of the retained building had previously been altered and no significant fabric remained. Externally the overall form of the building remained intact, but fenestration had been altered to both the east and west elevations. The exterior was preserved largely in its existing altered state. The new internal finishes are similar to those in the main building.

Perimeter and Airing Court Division Walls

The surviving perimeter and airing court division walls between the airing courts were retained. Several new openings were cut in the perimeter and internal walls to allow vehicle access. The internal roadway openings are limited to 3.5 metres in width. The openings were formed simply by vertical cuts through the masonry, and the cut brickwork faces were rendered. A new section of perimeter wall was constructed along part of the west and north sides, as described in the following section.

Privies

All four of the original privy buildings survive. The north-east privy is being preserved intact in its c. 1950s state, with low cubicle partitions and sanitary fittings. The other privies are being used mainly for storage or for possible studio use by residents. The south-east privy was converted to a toilet serving the nearby tennis court, and has somewhat intrusive flush doors.

Sunshades

Two of the original six sunshades survived at the time the current works commenced and were retained.

The Grounds

The landscaping and site works were intended to rectify a number of existing problems, as summarised in the following section, to provide a partial restoration of the original layout and planting of the asylum grounds and to provide new car parking areas, pathways and facilities such as tennis courts, a swimming pool and barbeques.

The central oval forecourt in front of the main building was reconstructed approximately to its original alignment, and a car parking area formed within it. The two Canary Island palms (*Phoenix canariensis*) were retained, and new trees are to be planted within the forecourt in the parking area. The forecourt is being enclosed with a timber and steel hairpin fence following the design of the original fencing in this area.

The airing courts were turfed and flower beds were formed adjacent to the apartments and the new townhouses. The original path system was supplemented by a network of new paths, some intended to provide access for furniture-moving trolleys. Apart from remedial works and conservation of significant trees and landscape elements in the airing courts, the landscaping treatment to the airing courts is modern, although generally the aim was to remain sympathetic to the buildings and the original landscape design.

Car parking for residents was provided in two main areas in front of the south-east and south-west wings in front of the main building and behind the townhouses along the east, west and north sides of the complex. New access roads to the car parking areas have been constructed within the complex. Additional parking areas were provided for visitors immediately outside the west boundary wall and in the oval forecourt in front of the main building. All of the car parking spaces within the perimeter wall are under cover, the shelters being designed as open sided steel-framed sheds with curved corrugated steel roofs. The car parking areas in front of the main building were excavated to minimise the height of the shelters and their visual effect.

Included in the landscape work was construction of several ancillary structures, including peacock roosts in the south-east and south-west airing courts and bin enclosures inside the outer perimeter wall. The peacock roosts are simple timber structures intended to relate to the earlier aviaries which had been located in these airing courts. The bin enclosures are of timber lattice construction, and generally are not visible from the main building.

3.3.3 Conservation and Remedial Works

The development works had the general aim of returning the fabric of the buildings and site to sound condition and conserving those elements of the site which were assessed as having particular heritage significance. Conservation advice, including specifications and inspection of remedial works, was obtained by the developer from architect Willys Span Keeble. Additional advice on specific remedial works was obtained from architect and buildings technologist Peter Kerr. Conservation and remedial works included the following:

- Preservation and partial restoration of the exterior of the main building
- Preservation of a representative ward interior
- Preservation of the 'dungeon' interior in the north-east wing
- Preservation of significant internal elements
- Preservation of the rear gate houses, fever tents and the female outside ward
- Restoration of the extant perimeter and internal division walls
- Retention of the four extant privies
- Preservation and restoration of the two extant sunshades
- Partial restoration and reconstruction of significant landscape elements

The majority of these works were completed as part of the 1993-4 development works. A number of outstanding remedial works to the exterior of the main building were identified, mainly to window joinery and areas of render, and are to be completed. Restoration of the perimeter and division walls was partly carried out, and the remaining work is currently being carried out.

Prior to the 1993-4 works, substantial loss of the original fabric of the buildings had occurred, particularly since the 1920s, and various unsympathetic additions had been made, including a flat-roofed two storey extension to the east elevation of the south-east wing and single storey extensions to the east and west wings, as well as external stairs, ramps, loading docks, pipework and enclosed verandahs. Although the adaptation works required in connection with the residential conversion precluded a complete restoration, the aim of the works was to restore the exterior generally as closely as practicable to the original form. Most of the additions to the main building were demolished. The twentieth century wings added to the south-east wing, the bathroom wings to the south-west wing and the 1926 first floor to the north-west (former laundry) wing were retained. All of the previous external steam heating pipes and other pipework and exposed services were removed.

Virtually no maintenance work had been carried out to the buildings since the 1980s, and at the time the 1993-4 development works commenced many areas of the main building and other structures were in poor or derelict state. The main slated and lead-covered roofs and the verandah roofs were leaking, leading to timber decay and damage to internal ceilings and walls. Many areas of external render to walls, cornices and parapets were defective. Although generally the walls of the buildings were free of significant structural movement, there were some isolated areas of cracking, notably above the arched bay windows on the outside-facing elevations. Rising damp was a serious problem in many areas caused largely by the failure of the site stormwater drainage system and by raised ground levels around the main building and the boundary walls.

Main Building

Wall Repairs

Ground level surveys carried out before the 1993-4 works commenced revealed large areas of the external render found or suspected to be in poor condition. Problems included drummy areas, where render had detached from the underlying masonry, and areas of cracking associated with either structural movement or failure of the render, as well as peeling paint and flaking render coats.

The projecting cornices on the centre-south wing and the towers are constructed with cantilevered slabs of slate built into the walls and overlaid with render mouldings. The cornices were inspected in the course of the development works and, apart from cracked and drummy render, were found to be structurally sound.

Instead of replacing loose and drummy render, the majority of the existing render was retained and was reinforced and made weatherproof using various techniques. The render generally was overlaid with a high-build paint system. Wider structural cracking was pointed before application of the paint system. Pitted and rough surfaces were skim coated with a polymer type coating. The new high-build paint system and render skim coats have generally been applied on top of old paint coatings. The basalt sub-walls have not generally been repointed, and there are open-jointed areas, particularly to the high exposed sections on the east and centre-north wings.

Very exposed surfaces, such as the upper parts of the towers, and horizontal surfaces such as cornice tops were generally drummy. Technical advice was obtained from building technologist Peter Kerr on the extent and specification of further necessary render repair works to these critical areas, resulting in the use of epoxy resin injected into drummy render to improve adhesion between the render and the substrate. The injected render surface was then protected with the high build paint used elsewhere incorporating mist fibreglass reinforcing sheets, as specified by Peter Kerr.

Although the use of epoxy resin to stabilise critical areas of drummy render addresses the main problems in this area, it should be monitored in the future to ensure that there is no water penetration and damage to vertical surfaces, water ingress through horizontal surfaces such as cornices, parapets, chimneys and rendered window sills which might affect internal surfaces and joinery.

Rendered cast concrete balustrading was used in the reconstruction of the front balconies instead of the original solid pressed cement balustrading. The render coating should be monitored. The balustrading is reasonably accessible if future repairs are required.

Damp Proofing

Dampness in the walls of the main building had been caused by a range of factors. In many areas, the existing damp-proof course, located between the basalt sub-walls and the brick upper walls, had been bridged by raised ground levels or later external paving, ramps or internal concrete floors. Blockage or leaks in the stormwater drainage system resulted in excessively damp soil conditions near the building. Damp was penetrating through some subterranean walls enclosing lower ground floor rooms, as a result of drainage defects and later construction of concrete floors above the retaining walls.

A number of remedial measures were taken to control dampness, in addition to remedial works to the stormwater and roof drainage systems. Ground levels around the building were lowered and paving and concrete slabs bridging the damp-proof course were removed. Subsoil drainage was installed at the base of subterranean walls, and under new internal concrete floors below ground level. Where existing damp-proof courses had been bridged, silicone injection damp-proof courses were installed at skirting level. Approximately 50 % of walls to the west wings and 80 % of walls to the east wings, together with isolated areas in the centre-south wing have new silicone injection damp-proof courses. These carry a ten-year guarantee.

All of the airing court and perimeter walls have either spoon drains or subsoil drains on the hill side. Deep open drains lined with concrete and covered with steel grilles were formed along the east perimeter wall where the internal ground level is higher than the stone plinth and damp proof course to the wall.

Windows and Doors

Apart from the additions to the main building, the main exterior alterations previously carried out had been to the form and detailing of the fenestration and door openings. The 1993-4 works included returning most altered fenestration to the original proportions by narrowing previously widened openings and lowering raised sills. Non-original openings were built up. As noted above, the works included alteration of approximately one-third of the ground floor windows to doorways, matching the original width and height of the windows, and some openings to stair lobbies and through passages were widened. Virtually all of the first floor windows, however, were returned to the original configuration.

The previously altered doors to the kitchen area, on the east and west elevations of the centre-north wing, were modified but not returned to the original form. An additional arched first floor window was inserted on the east elevation of the south-east wing, to apartment 115, making a bank of four arched windows instead of the original three. A non-original and somewhat intrusive wide rectangular opening formed in the south elevation of the south-east wing, opening to a recessed porch giving access to apartment 117, remains unchanged.

Surviving original external windows and doors were retained and repaired as far as practicable. The conservation consultant recommended establishment of a stockpile of all removed window and door joinery, basalt sills and other components. Virtually all of the stockpiled items were reused. Where repair of joinery was necessary, oregon was used, and details match the original. Where previously raised sills were restored to the original height, existing sashes were elongated using oregon. On the majority of new sashes, timber cover snaps were used instead of the original iron glazing bar covers. Generally the standard of joinery repairs on the eastern wings is noticeably higher than on the western wings.

Recent inspections of the repaired windows by the conservation consultants Willys Span-Keeble and Peter Kerr have identified a number of outstanding defects which are to be made good by the developer and reinspected by the conservation consultants.

Verandahs

Many sections of the verandahs and covered walkways had seriously deteriorated as a result of roof leaks and blocked rainwater drainage, leading to decayed roof timbers and corroded ironwork. Some elements of the original verandahs, such as frieze panels, were missing. In

ironwork. Some elements of the original verandahs, such as frieze panels, were missing. In some areas, verandahs had been enclosed or removed. All of the enclosures were removed and the verandahs restored to their original state. Missing sections of verandahs were reconstructed on the south-east and south-west wings adjacent to the centre administration wing, the inner south elevation of the south-east wing and the outer elevations of the east and west wings. The section of original verandah missing to the extreme east end of the building has not been reinstated.

Repairs and reinstatement of missing sections and elements have aimed to match the original detailing. New columns were constructed from steel tube and cast iron bases and capitals, all galvanised. These generally are a close but not identical match to the original wholly-cast iron columns, and are distinguished by the fillet welds between the castings and the steel tube. Leaks were occurring between the capitals and the column shafts, and a repair technique was recommended by building technologist Peter Kerr.

The remedial works specification included sandblasting and priming rusty areas of columns before painting. Some downpipe columns were fitted with 75 mm diameter plastic sleeves to the top 300 mm only.

The lead apron flashings between the verandah roofs and the walls are cracked in many places and generally are at the end of their useful life. These were partly and ineffectually repaired with lead patches, and should be either more effectively repaired, with lead-burned patches, or replaced.

New cast iron frieze panels were made for the outer verandahs, using original frieze panels as patterns. The simpler hoop iron friezes to the verandahs facing the internal elevations have also been reproduced. Where sections of roof were rebuilt, the original framing details generally were followed. Some areas of roof boarding were replaced, using beaded tongue-and-groove boards matching the original. All of the verandahs and walkways were re-roofed with galvanised corrugated steel. The verandahs were altered by fitting Deluge type roof lights at every second bay throughout.

Missing or damaged bluestone margins were replaced to match. The majority of the verandahs have later concrete paving, which was retained and repaired. Some isolated areas of original square terra cotta floor tiling previously remained in the south-east wing, and elsewhere, but were taken up, and replaced with concrete. The retrieved terra cotta tiles are being relaid in the east-west covered walkway between the east and west wings and the centre-north wing, filling a large proportion of the floor area of the walkway. The remainder of the walkway floor is being paved with red concrete.

It is unclear from available documentation what was the original form of the verandah to the west elevation of the former laundry (north-west) wing, and the verandah to this elevation was rebuilt as a simple timber-framed structure similar to the verandahs to the new town houses.

Roof Works

Complete refurbishment of the roof and roof drainage system was been carried out. Works carried out included stopping and relating all of the slated roof pitches and renewal of the lead covered flat roofs and balconies to the centre-south wing, the towers and the bay windows to the south-east and south-west wings, together with associated repair or renewal of roof timbers and rainwater goods. Five areas of flat roof to the ward wings, at the top of slated pitches, which were originally lead-covered, were renewed using galvanised sheet steel.

The original slates were 600 mm x 300 mm ('Duchess') Welsh slates. Sound original slates were refixed to the south-facing pitches of the front wings and the outer pitches of the east and west wings, and new Spanish Cupa slates, of smaller dimensions, were laid on the inner pitches facing the inner airing courts. Damaged or decayed battens and roof framing were generally replaced, although some unrepaired decayed timber, which was fairly minor, was noted in the east wing. This should be reinspected. Grey profiled cement tiles similar to the previous tiles were fixed to the twentieth century extensions to the south-east wing.

Ridge cappings and valley gutters to the main slated roofs are galvanised steel. On the mansard roofs to the towers and the centre-south wing, the steel hip flashings were replaced with lead sheet flashings, reinstating the original material. The galvanised steel ridge cappings and valley gutters are likely to have a life expectancy of 25-30 years compared with a possible life of 70-80 years for the slating and lead flashing.

Lead roof coverings were renewed generally in 25 kg/m² (BS Code 5) lead sheet laid direct onto boarding without underlay, as was the original lead. The original layout and sheet sizes were followed, with timber-cored roll joints between sheets. Decayed boarding was replaced. Some of the flat roofs, and particularly the first floor west balcony to the centre-south wing, has cupped boarding with resulting corrugations across the fall showing in the lead. The lead thickness is regarded as the minimum required for the sheets.

The existing lead cladding to the centre-south wing cupola appears to be in sound condition and was retained. Some minor patching was carried out to the floor of the cupola. Flashings to wall and chimney abutments were renewed where defective in lead sheet. Timber duckboards are being fitted to the accessible flat roofs to the centre-south wing balconies and the centre-north wing tower.

Box gutters behind parapets to the balcony roofs and the base of the mansard roofs to the towers and the centre-south wing were renewed in stainless steel sheet. The mansard roof gutters were raised to just below the top of the parapets, widening the gutter base and allowing the possibility of overflow over the parapets in the event of blockage of the outlets. The box gutters drain direct to internal downpipes. The balcony and centre-north tower gutters have no overflows, and there is a risk of water ingress into the building in the event of the downpipes becoming blocked. The downpipes should be checked regularly and ideally overflows should be provided.

Previous galvanised steel and copper eaves gutters were replaced throughout with new galvanised quad guttering with round galvanised steel downpipes.

The roof lights over the stairs to the centre-south wing, located behind the mansard towers, are being renewed using similar profile galvanised steel glazing bars, wired glass and lead flashings. Other existing roof lights in the slated roofs to the east and north-west wings were replaced with Deluge-type roof lights. New domed plastic roof lights were installed in the flat roofs to the east and west towers. These are just visible externally but are not considered to detract substantially from the appearance of the towers. There are, however, likely to be problems of excessive heat gain under these roof lights leading to possible excessive drying-out and splitting of roof timbers.

No foil or other underlay was used under the slates to the main roof pitches, and these roofs are not insulated. The mansard roofs to the towers and the centre-south wing and the centre-north wing roof have bulk insulation batts fitted between the slating and the ceiling linings.

Chimneys

All but two of the chimneys to the male (cas) wards had previously been demolished, and these chimneys have not been rebuilt. The remaining chimneys to the west ward wings and the centre-north wing were retained, although many of the chimney breasts inside the apartments below were cut back. These chimneys have had openings cut into the flues within the attic roof spaces to provide additional ventilation for the balanced flue boilers. The chimneys which previously projected through the mansard towers to the centre-south wing were dismantled to below roof level, and the other chimneys to this wing were retained. All of the flues are open at the top. The internal render linings to the upper parts of the chimney flues have been made good.

Lightning Conductors

The conservation analysis notes that a lightning conductor system based on a British code may have been installed in about 1899, and that remains of an early system could be seen.¹ It is unclear to what extent this system survives. A modern lightning protection system was installed, comprising tall poles topped with spherical conductors located on the east and west tower roofs. The location of the poles at the rear edges of the flat roofs was intended to make them less prominent, as well as to avoid the central skylights which were fitted to the tower roofs.

Interiors

The majority of the interiors had previously been assessed as having relatively little individual significance, and, as described above, most were substantially altered by the adaptation works. Conservation efforts were directed towards preservation of individually distinctive elements and the following representative spaces:

- A representative example of a complete ward interior on the first floor of the south-west wing.
- The 'dungeon' located at lower ground floor level at the north end of the north-east wing.
- Most ward stair wells.
- Stairs and ground floor circulation spaces in the centre-south wing.
- The iron water tanks and sections of the water tank floor in each of the east and west towers.

The preserved ward interior comprises the ground floor entry, stair and first floor landing, a large day room, gallery and eleven small rooms or originally used as patients' and attendants' rooms. This area, while less intact than the female wards and laundry wing at Mayday Hills (Beechworth) Hospital, retains the original plan form and most of the original doors and other joinery. Internal window shutters and the gallery and attendants' room fireplaces are bricked up. Some of the originally painted brick walls have been plastered at some time in the past.

This ward interior has been preserved substantially as it was in the late 1890s and it should be conserved as found. No attempt is being made to restore the area to its original or other earlier

state. A partition dividing the day room is to be removed and the floor carpeted. A new door opening has been formed to provide access to the room at the west end of the gallery, originally an attendants' store accessed from the adjacent ward. The existing cupboards and mantelpiece in the day room and the later suspended fan coil heaters in the gallery have been retained. The ward is intended to house an archive and museum, containing a collection of artefacts from the hospital, drawings, photographs and other interpretive materials. Four water tanks, relocated from the towers, are to be located on the stair landing. The day room is for general use by the residents as a meeting and reading room.

The 'dungeon' located at lower ground floor level at the north end of the north-east wing is another relatively intact internal area which has not been converted for residential use, and has been preserved. These spaces have coursed rock-faced basalt walls with brick vaulted ceilings remaining to most spaces. Ceilings in some rooms were replaced previously with concrete slabs. The surviving heavy timber doors have been retained. Existing barred windows to the west elevation have been retained. The previous glazed windows to the east have been replaced with new glazed sashes.

The original ward stair wells were substantially intact, retaining their painted brick walls, conugated iron ceilings, stone stair treads and most of the recessed timber handrails. Many of the boarded and panelled internal doors and panelled external doors also remained intact. Apart from the east and west towers, where one of the two stairs in each tower was demolished, all of the original stairs have been restored to a state close to original. The original ceilings in some stairs were concealed with new suspended plasterboard ceilings. In some cases, external openings and openings to adjacent circulation spaces were formed or widened. Most of the original fabric, however, has been retained.

The ground floor entrance hall, corridors and stair well in the centre-south wing were preserved largely in their original form, apart from construction of a new air lock enclosure in the entrance hall and partitions at the ends of the corridors. Doors facing the corridors are retained, although some are not operational and were relocated to the corridor face of the walls instead of the room side as originally. The missing stiles, doors and sidelights to the arched door to the centre stair have been reinstated. The previously removed bottom flight of the east stair was reconstructed to match the corresponding west stair. The first floor corridor has been subdivided between three apartments.

Twelve of the original 23 iron water storage tanks in the east and west towers were retained in situ, enclosed behind new partitions. The other tanks were removed, and some are to be displayed in the preserved ward. The tanks originally in the centre-north wing tower had previously been removed.

Although significant internal elements are found scattered throughout the main building, most are located in the centre-south (administration) and centre-north (dining room) wings. Significant internal elements include window joinery, remaining original doors and timber or painted slate mantle pieces and the cast iron columns in the former day rooms and dormitories. Most, but probably not all, of these elements appear to have been retained.

In the centre-south wing, most joinery, fireplaces and other significant elements have been retained and restored. The pressed metal ceilings in some of the centre-south wing rooms have been retained, and adapted where rooms were altered. Cornices and skirting boards were reformed to suit altered room plans, and some rooms appear to have completely new cornices matching the original profile. Other rooms have modern coved cornices. Existing mantelpieces were retained and several new Victorian style timber or marble mantelpieces have been installed to replace missing mantelpieces. All of the fireplaces had previously been

removed, and non-operational reclaimed Victorian cast iron register grates were fitted to most fireplaces. The original timber stair to the second floor and attic in the centre-south wing was retained. Missing or damaged balusters have been replaced.

In the centre-north wing, the most significant original spaces were the double height dining hall and the adjoining first floor billiards room to the south. These spaces have been subdivided, but most of the significant elements appear to have been retained. Some of the timber roof trusses are exposed at first floor level, while others were encased in new lightweight dividing walls. The plaster arches and other high level detail and the timber dado to the dining room walls were retained, although their visual effect is now fragmented by the subdivision of the space. The Baroque composition of the north wall of the former billiards room (Apartment 6) has been retained. At the north end of the centre-north wing, the lower ground level apartments largely retain the original plan form, coursed bluestone and brick walls and vaulted ceilings.

Painting

All of the external render and joinery was repainted. Paint colours to the render and original door, window and verandah joinery and ironwork match approximately the original colour scheme as determined by paint analysis carried out by the conservation consultant. New external doors are distinguished by painting in a 'non-heritage' pale green colour. The verandah walls are painted with a high dado in darker colour separated from the main wall area by a contrasting stripe. Eaves timbers and rainwater goods are painted to match the walls. Cast iron wall vents are painted in a contrasting colour.

Joinery and ironwork are all painted using traditional oil-based paints. The October 1995 defects inspection by the consultants noted a number of defects concerning preparation and painting of joinery. Render was painted using a thickly applied high-build paint system generally applied over previous paint coatings following washing. Identified problems relating to the paint membrane include peeling, cracking, blistering and preparation defects. These problems are most evident on the centre-south block and the towers. It is understood that this matter is now being addressed.

All of the apartment interiors are painted with a limited range of modern and neutral colour schemes. In the original ward stairwells, the painting of the walls, ceiling and joinery is based broadly on the original colours and includes a painted dado to the walls. Investigation of the decorative schemes to the ground floor corridors and the main stairs in the centre-south wing have revealed several schemes, one of which includes dado stencilling. At present, however, none of these early schemes has been carried out.

Rear Gate Lodges

As with the main building, the roofs of the two rear gate lodges were completely overhauled, with new slating and rainwater goods. The brick walls had previously been coated with a cement slurry and then painted, and efforts were made to remove these coatings and restore the original face brickwork. The slurry proved impossible to remove without risk of damage to the brickwork, and it was decided to repaint the walls in a brick colour. The chimneys have also been stripped, and although some slurry remains, they have not been repainted.

Fever Tents

The two fever tents have been restumped and the floors were strengthened with additional bearers. New galvanised steel shoes were fitted to the verandah posts. Repairs to the timber frame have mainly comprised replacement of some decayed rafter ends and addition of a small truss within the centre of the roof space to support the ridge. New canvas was fitted to the sliding shutters. The fever tents were reroofed in corrugated iron for practical reasons, although they were originally roofed with canvas. Repainting broadly follows the original colourscheme.

Female Outside Ward

The exterior of the 1885 female outside ward located near the south-east wing has been preserved largely in its existing altered state. The roof was reslated and the verandah reroofed. Two of the cast iron verandah columns were replaced with new columns, as for the verandahs to the main building. The original hoop iron frieze and the underboarding to the verandah roof have been retained.

Perimeter and Airing Court Division Walls

The surviving perimeter and airing court division walls between the airing courts were retained and have been partly restored. Although most of the original ha-ha ditches excavated on the inside faces of the walls had been previously filled, partial re-excavation of the ha-ha ditch adjacent to the south-west privy and at the curved section of wall at the north-east corner was carried out. A previously demolished section of internal division wall, including scalloped cappings, has been reconstructed next to the west perimeter wall. Missing sandstone orbs to the corner piers on the front section of the perimeter wall have been replaced.

Previously built up ground levels against the inside faces of the perimeter walls have been reduced to relieve pressure on the brickwork and to alleviate problems of rising damp. Along the east perimeter wall, a concrete-lined drainage trench, fitted with a steel mesh top, has been constructed between the inside face of the wall and the new access road to allow reduction of the ground level immediately next to the wall without massive removal of earth across the adjacent area.

Painted sections of the walls have been stripped using chemicals and water jets. Although the majority of the brickwork appears to be in good condition, there has been some displacement of the wall at the south-west corner and brickwork to many areas elsewhere has spalled. The south wall of the former female refractory patients' airing court (west of the west wing) had been damaged by hard rendering. Pointing is eroded in many areas of the boundary walls and some brick joints have cracked as a result of structural movement. The brickwork is currently being repointed where necessary and spalled bricks are being replaced with salvaged or new bricks.

A section of the internal wall west of the west wing is leaning, and was restrained by steel stranchions erected on the south side of the wall and bolted through to steel plates on the opposite face. The new steelwork has a significant visual impact, but overall it is considered that the approach taken is appropriate.

Missing sections to the perimeter wall have been reconstructed. Two gaps in the front section of the wall, south of the main building, have been reconstructed using recycled bricks to the

outside face matching the non-standard height of the original bricks. The outside face is to be bonded into the existing brickwork at each end. On the rear face, recycled bricks of standard dimensions and matching colour have been used with vertical construction joints to the ends. Special capping bricks were made to match the existing. Three smaller gaps on the east perimeter wall are being rebuilt using modern standard sized bricks with vertical construction joints to both sides, and capping bricks matching the original shapes.

The north section of the west perimeter wall and much of the north wall were rebuilt in brick to a modern design with precast concrete copings. This reconstruction virtually completes the whole of the perimeter wall, leaving a gap only near the north-east corner. The new sections of brickwork, where a smooth hard-faced brick was used, clearly contrast in appearance with the old. Precast copings were also fitted to the section of internal wall on the north side of the former refractory female patients' airing court next to the west wing, where a later wing was demolished.

The structural stability of some of the walls to each side of the new vehicle access openings formed in the perimeter and internal walls is suspect, particularly to the west internal wall and the north-east corner where the walls are of considerable height and leaning. It is understood that Bruce Adams, structural engineer, has been engaged to report on the structural stability of the walls.

Privies

The four original privies have been restored to their original external appearance, including stripping of paint from brickwork and reinstatement of missing diagonal lattice window grilles. The north-east privy is being preserved intact in its c. 1950s state, with low cubicle partitions and sanitary fittings, while the other privies have been converted to other uses as described in the preceding section. The south-west privy retains markings on the stone flagged floor from the original pans and floor drains.

Sunshades

The c. 1874 sunshade in the west (female) airing court is of rustic timber construction with framing and seats formed from natural unsawn logs and sticks. Repairs carried out have included fitting galvanised steel shoes to some post bases, and reconstructing the central table and the seats and some seat arms, using natural sticks. The sunshade was re-roofed using corrugated iron, instead of the original slating which appears to have remained in place until the 1930s when it was replaced with iron. Decayed rafter ends were trimmed back approximately 75 mm. No rafters or beams were replaced, although some are decayed.

The 1920s east sunshade has sawn and dressed timber posts and framing. It was relocated to a position south of its previous location which was considered too close to the new townhouses. The structure was moved by crane as a single unit following fixing of temporary bracing. New galvanised steel shoes were fitted to the post bases and the seats were reconstructed. New corrugated galvanised steel roofs and rainwater goods were fitted to both sunshades.

Cisterns

A total of six 1872-3 brick-lined underground water cisterns are located within the Willsmere complex. Two cisterns, located above the fever tents and the swimming pool, were

structurally compromised by tree roots and leaking drains and have been stabilised. The condition of the remaining four has not been investigated in detail.

Landscape and Site Works

Before the 1993-4 development works commenced, the landscape at Willsmere was described as severely degraded, resulting from the intrusion of additional buildings and paving and random introduction of recent planting.² Although many significant trees survived, they had suffered from lack of or poorly conceived maintenance and, in some cases, from possum damage. Site drainage was in poor condition, leading to problems of rising damp and structural movement in the buildings. The landscaping and site works were intended to rectify these problems and to provide a partial restoration of the original layout and planting of the asylum grounds. In addition, new car parking areas, pathways and other facilities were provided as summarised in the preceding section.

Some landscape areas which are significant in relation to Willsmere are outside the present Willsmere site and were not included in the development works. Among these areas are the original main drive leading from Princess Street, now part of the adjoining Kew Cottages site, and the embankment south of the approach road in front of the main building. The embankment has been leased to the Yarra Bend Park Trust, who are to be responsible for maintenance of this area.

Significant trees were identified before the works started and efforts were made to protect them from damage from vehicles and the works. Essential arboricultural work, including lopping and providing supports to branches was carried out, and the majority of significant trees are considered to be now in sound condition for the time being. Some trees, however, notably a large *Pinus radiata* and a *Cupressus torulosa* in the south-east airing court, are likely to suffer problems arising from root damage, as a result of lowering of ground levels around the main building and in the sunken car parking areas. Other significant trees are approaching the end of their lives, and phased replacement of these senescent trees will become necessary.

Among the significant landscape areas are the two tree plantations to the south of the main building on each side of the oval forecourt. These plantations contain a variety of tree species, each planted as a near mirror image of the other. Notable among the trees is a large *Araucaria cunninghamii* in the east plantation. A number of the trees were in poor condition, and some have been replaced with similar species. The two Canary Island palms (*Phoenix canariensis*) in the oval forecourt in front of the main building have been retained.

Apart from retention of significant trees, the main conservation work in the airing courts was the reconstruction of the rose garden in the female patients' airing court between the west and centre-north wings. The 1950s bowling green in the east airing court has been retained and partly restored.

Site works have included replacing the existing stormwater and subsoil drainage systems. The original brick-lined stormwater collection pits at the base of the verandah rainwater pipes were replaced with small plastic gullies. Brick spoon drains along the verandahs and boundary walls were retained and repaired. Subsoil drainage was provided along the up hill side of boundary walls which do not have spoon drains.

A comprehensive sprinkler system, using automatically controlled pop-up sprinklers, was installed throughout the landscaped areas.

3.3.4 New Construction

Apart from the car shelters, tennis courts, swimming pool and other landscape structures referred to in the preceding sections, the most significant new construction was the 109 new townhouses built along the east, north and west sides of the complex. The townhouses are two-storey terrace houses of precast concrete panel construction and tiled gabled roofs. Their simple forms, regular fenestration and continuous ground floor verandahs were intended to echo the design of the historic buildings, while allowing the historic buildings to remain the dominant structures on the site.

4.0 CONSERVATION POLICY AND PLAN

4.1 Introduction

The following conservation policy and plan has been developed on the basis of the assessment of the cultural significance of the Willsmere site. The intention of the plan is to provide direction for the future use, care and conservation of the buildings and the site in order to maintain or enhance their cultural significance. The policy should be formally adopted by Central Equity Limited and the Willsmere Body Corporate.

The conservation policy and plan should be subject to review, normally at five yearly intervals or at other times should the circumstances of the site alter in any significant way. The review should be carried out by the Conservation Architect to be appointed by the Body Corporate, or by another suitably qualified and experienced conservation professional. Amendments to the policy and plan arising from the review process are to be approved by the HBC.

In addition to the periodic review of the conservation policy and plan, the appointed Conservation Architect should provide an annual conservation plan advising what conservation or maintenance works to designated structures and landscape items are required to be carried out in the following twelve month period.

4.2 Conservation Policy

1. *Those elements identified as being of significance should be conserved in accordance with the conservation requirements identified in this study.*

Specific conservation policies and guidelines have been provided for all elements of individual primary and contributory significance and these policies should be observed when works are undertaken. They would also allow for compatible adaptation in certain areas.

2. *Those factors which have been identified in the statement of significance as contributing to significance should be considered in, and form the basis of, all future works.*

In undertaking any conservation or adaptation works or new construction on the site, consideration should be given to the assessed significance of the place and the impact of the works on that significance.

3. *All future conservation and development works which affect elements of significance should be carried out having regard for the principles of the Australia ICOMOS Charter for the Conservation of Places of Cultural Significance (The Burra Charter) as amended.*

The guidelines contained in the Burra Charter should be used in determining the acceptability of any proposed works or adaptive uses. Specific conservation objectives should include the retention and enhancement of existing cultural heritage values, the retention of identity and its contribution to a sense of place, the retention

of as much significant fabric and as many attributes as possible, restoration of significant fabric or elements and removal of intrusive accretions.

4. *All of the areas which are not of primary significance could be adapted as required within conservation guidelines.*

With regard to the works required to adapt any of the areas to compatible uses, it is essential that the works have minimal impact on culturally significant fabric and that they do not detract from the aesthetic qualities of the buildings and site overall.

4.3 Conservation Requirements

4.3.1 Repairs and Maintenance

1. *All future repairs and maintenance should be carried out within the principles established in the Burra Charter. To ensure that this is done correctly, overall responsibility for these works should be placed under the control of persons with professional expertise and experience in the conservation, maintenance and repair of historic buildings.*

The approach to repairs and maintenance should be firstly to ensure that the built fabric and landscape elements do not deteriorate further and secondly to conserve significant existing elements. This would ensure the conservation of the site as a whole and would maintain the value of a major heritage asset. With a regular cyclical maintenance program, a great deal of deterioration to the historic fabric can be prevented or retarded in the future. This is desirable both from a conservation and an economic viewpoint.

The scope of future repairs and maintenance work is addressed in the following section. In summary, required or desirable works include completion of remedial works not carried out as part of the current conversion works, and ongoing cyclical maintenance to the buildings and landscape. This will include relatively frequent items, such as gutter clearing and external painting, and long term major replacement of items such as roof slating, leadwork and gutters. It is crucial that all remedial works be carried out in accordance with recognised standards for conservation work to historic buildings.

4.3.2 New Work to Significant Elements and Spaces

1. *Where future works are to occur, the approach should first be to conserve significant elements of fabric within the constraints of the Burra Charter. Such works could include restoration or reconstruction of altered or missing significant fabric as identified*
2. *New works to external areas or internal spaces identified as being of primary significance should not result in the loss of significant fabric, and should aim as far as possible at the restoration or reconstruction of altered or missing significant fabric.*

3. *New works to internal spaces of contributory significance should first aim at conserving the original fabric to that space. New works in such spaces could accommodate new partitions, openings and other modifications to allow for different functional uses.*
4. *New works to external areas identified as being of contributory significance can be accommodated provided that they are in sympathy with and do not detract from the overall significance of the complex. The original envelope of the buildings should not be exceeded.*
5. *New works to internal spaces and areas of the exterior identified as being of no significance should first focus on the removal of unsympathetic elements and secondly, should be in sympathy with and not detract from the overall significance of the building.*

The aim of this approach is to reinforce and enhance the cultural significance and character of the place, with the principal aim being the conservation of all significant fabric. In view of the considerable extent of adaptation work carried out for conversion to residential use, generally the preferred policy would be that no further alteration works be carried out to areas of primary or contributory significance unless it can be shown that such works are essential, or are reversals of earlier alterations. In such cases, the works should be carried out in accordance with the above policy.

4.4 Compatible Uses and Adaptation

Compatible uses should be preferred to other uses for the site, in order to have the least impact on the buildings and the site overall. All proposals for adaptation and reuse should be formulated following the principles of the Burra Charter.

Residential use of the site is the preferred use, following the recent development works. Alternative uses, such as office use or educational use, could be compatible provided impact on the buildings and the site generally is in accordance with the conservation policy. A further change of use, however, could potentially further compromise the intactness of the site.

4.5 Levels of Significance

In the development of the conservation plan, consideration has been given to the levels of significance of different parts of the buildings and site. Three levels of significance have been assigned to provide specific direction on the priorities in relation to active conservation work and to indicate where there is greater or lesser scope for adaptation and alteration without diminishing the overall significance of the building.

The levels of significance have been grouped into three categories—primary, contributory and no significance. The areas are identified for each building on Figures 3–12 and in the following sections, with specific guidelines for conservation and adaptation for each area.

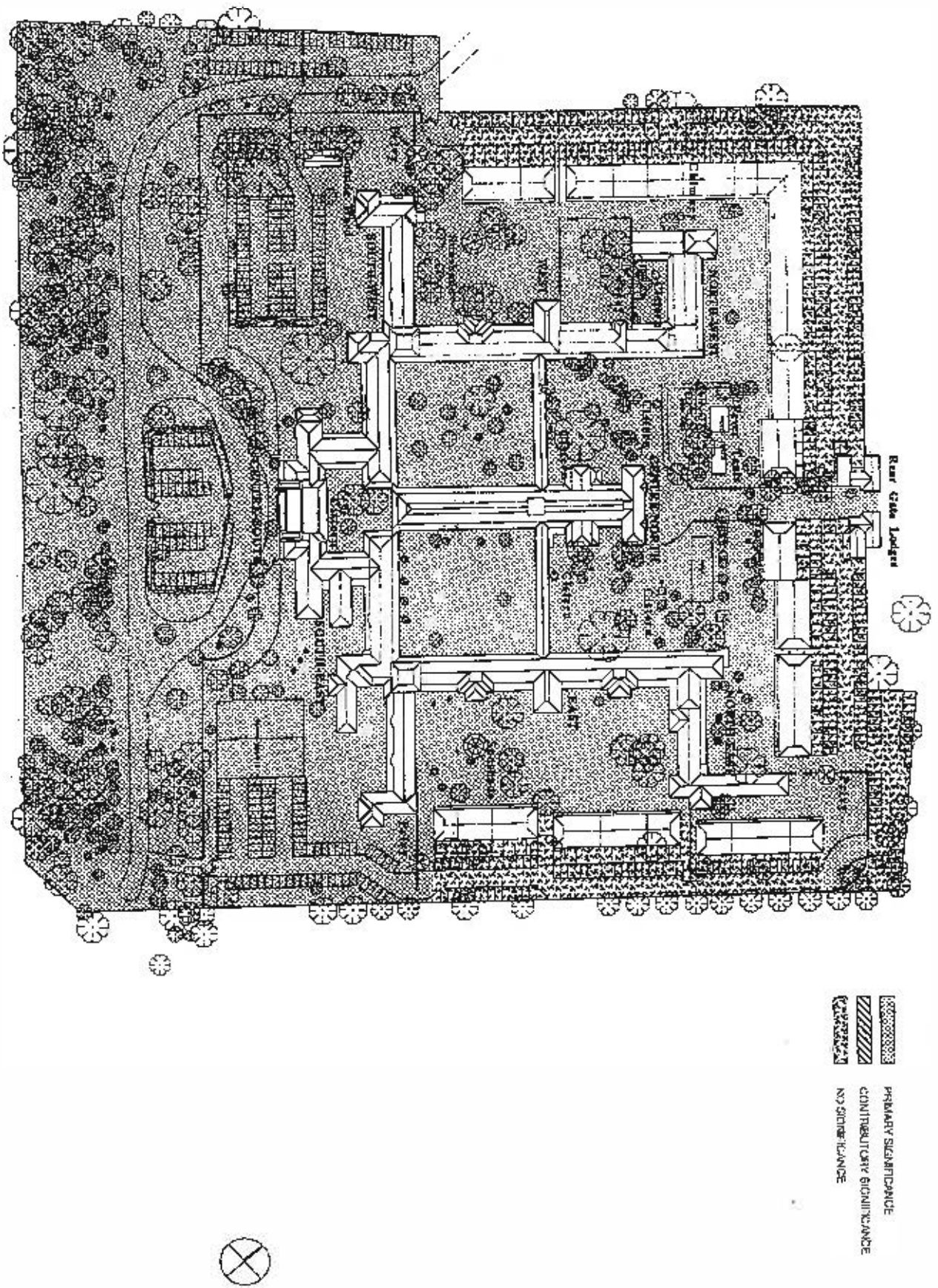


Figure 3 Levels of significance—Site

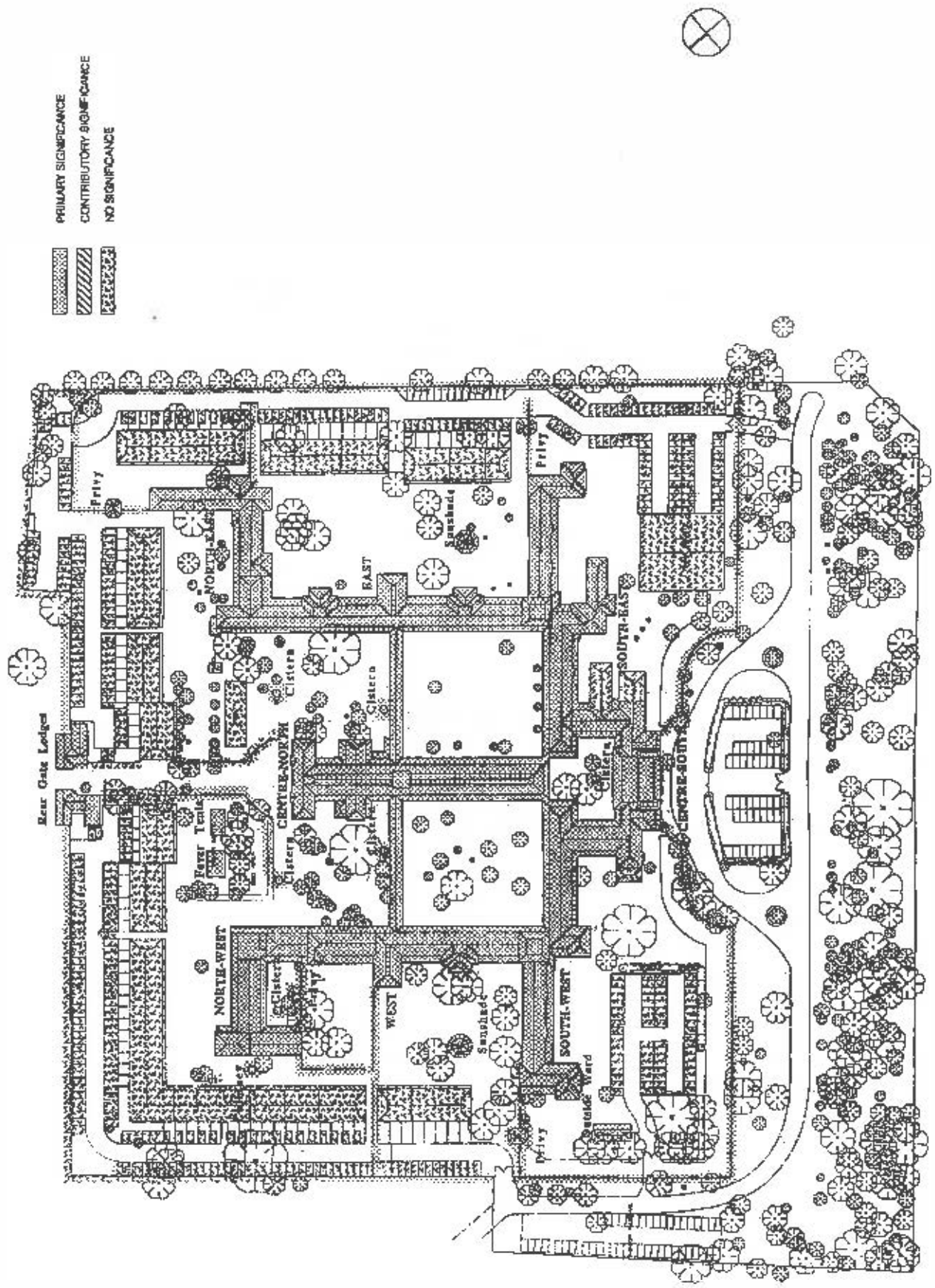


Figure 4 Levels of significance—Structures

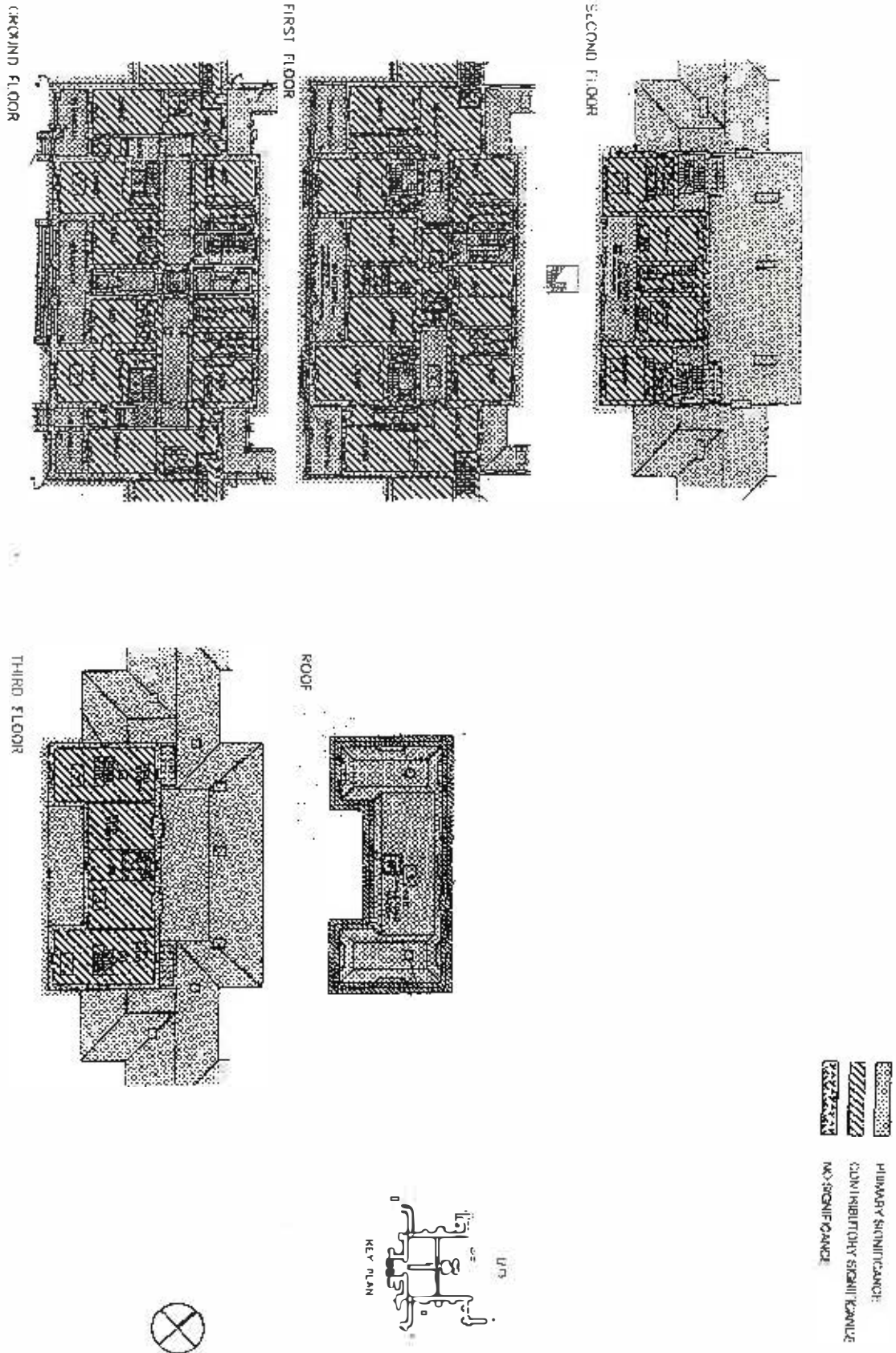


Figure 5 Levels of significance - Centre-south wing

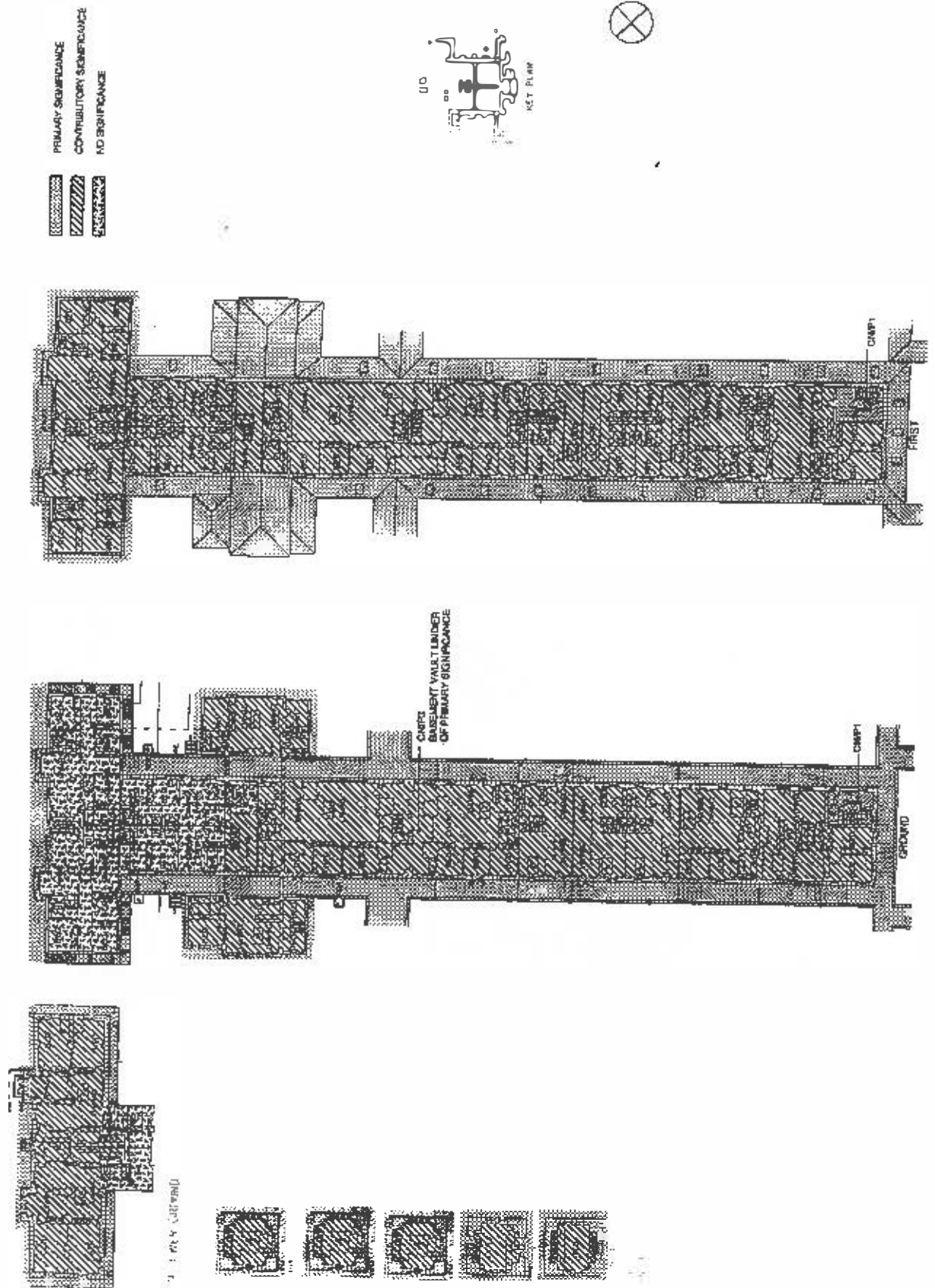


Figure 6 Levels of significance—Centre-north wing

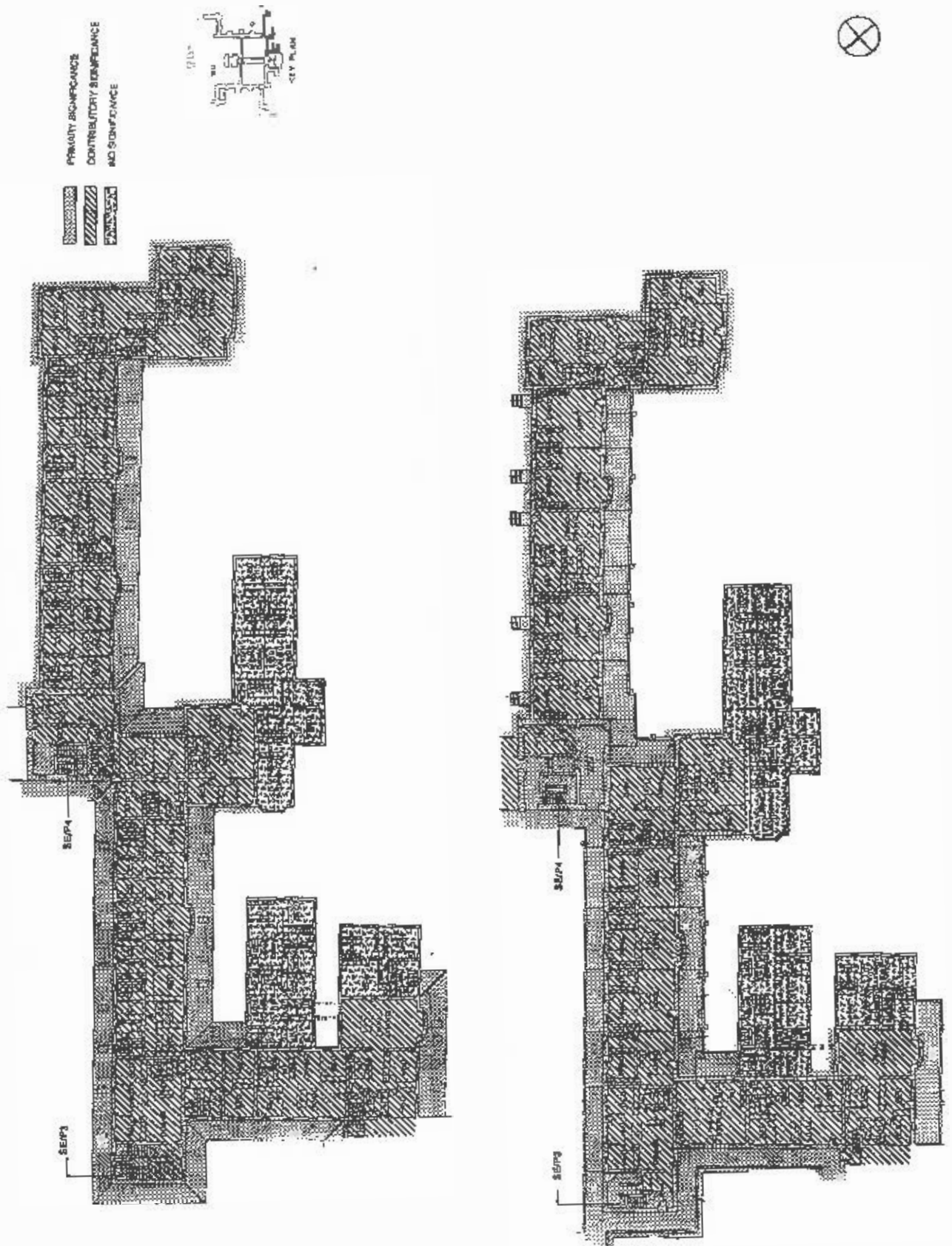


Figure 8 Levels of significance--South-east wing

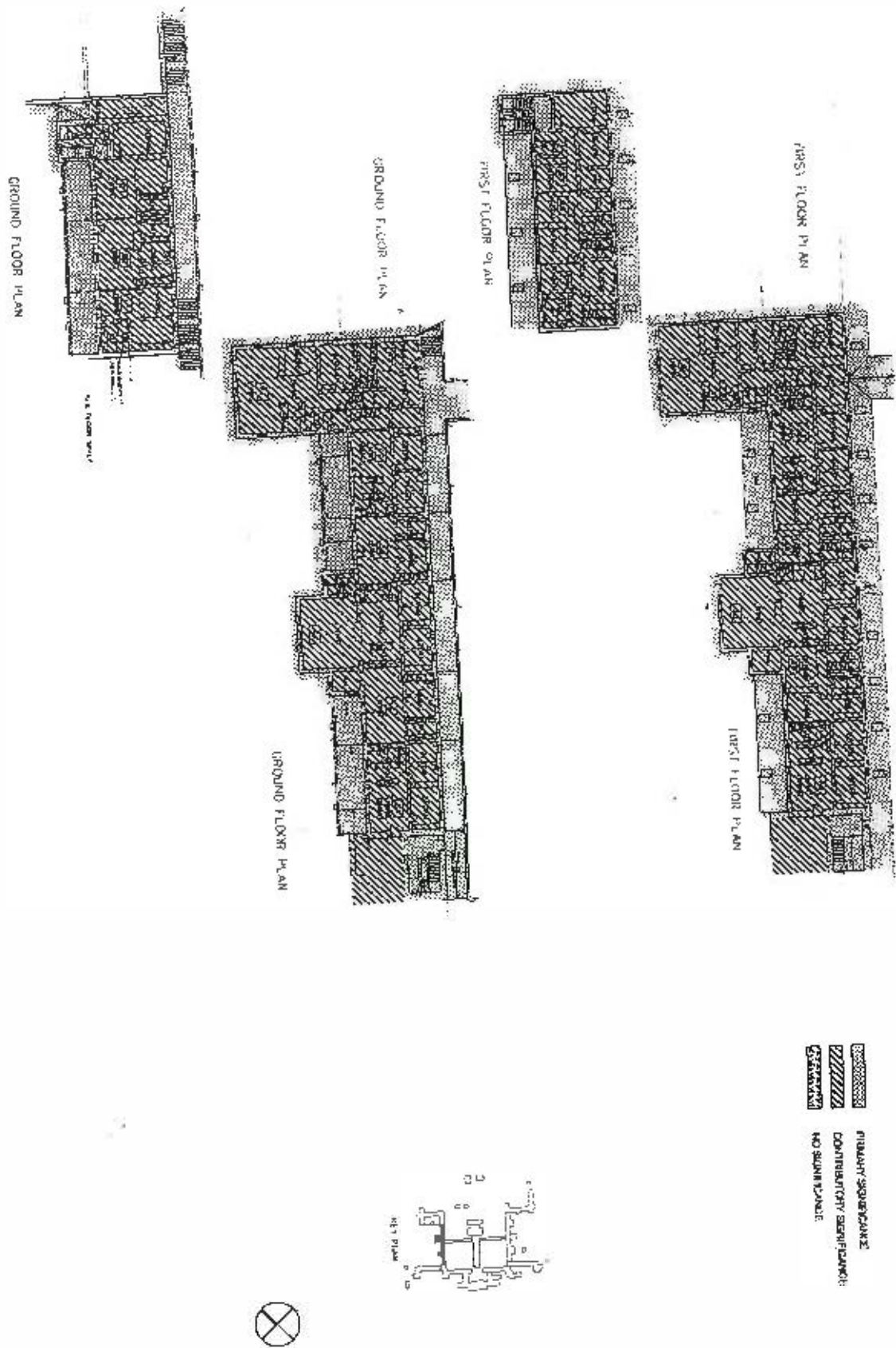



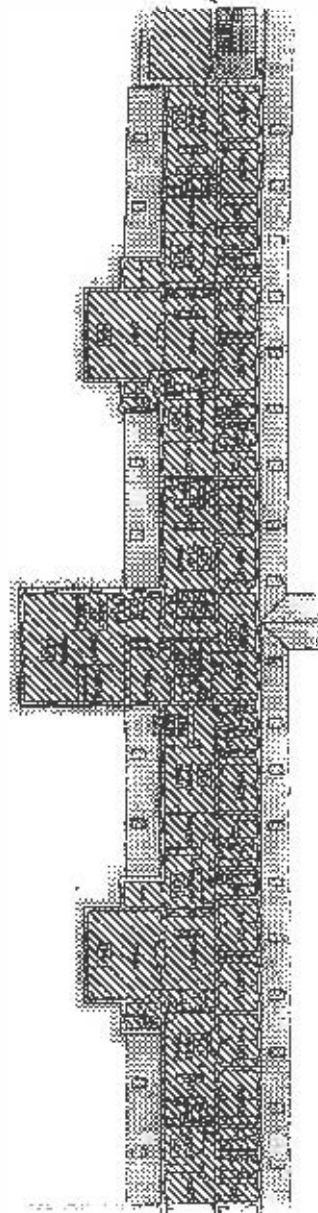
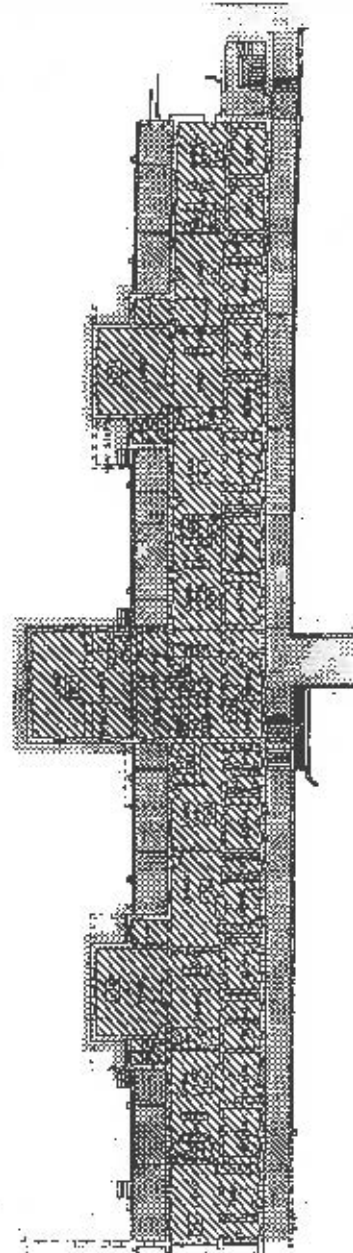


Figure 9 Levels of significance—West wing

 PRIMARY SIGNIFICANCE
 CONTRIBUTORY SIGNIFICANCE
 NO SIGNIFICANCE



FIRST FLOOR PLAN



GROUND FLOOR PLAN

Figure 10 Levels of significance—East wing

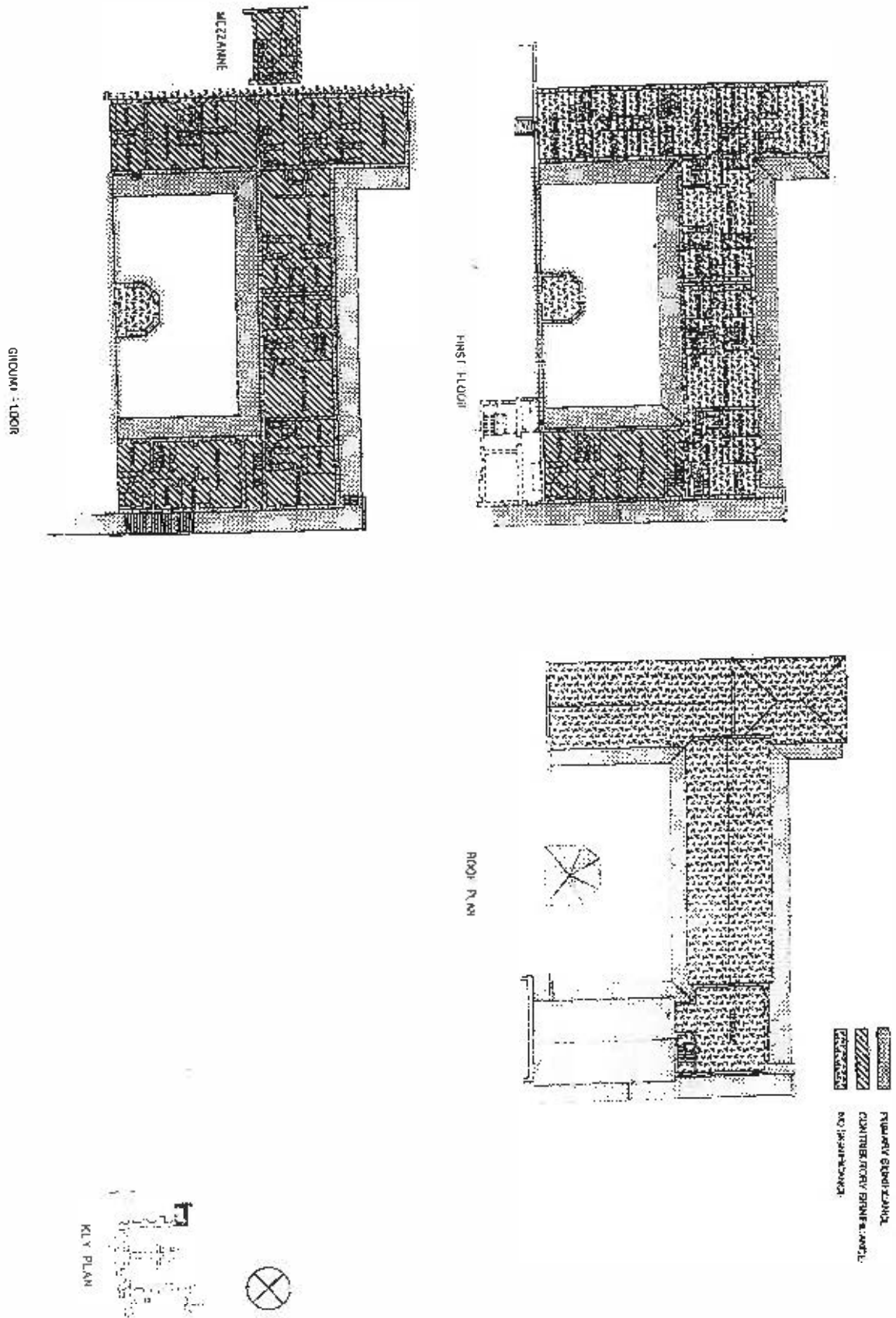


Figure 11 Levels of significance --North-west wing

■ PRIMARY SIGNIFICANCE
 ▨ CONTRIBUTORY SIGNIFICANCE
 □ NO SIGNIFICANCE

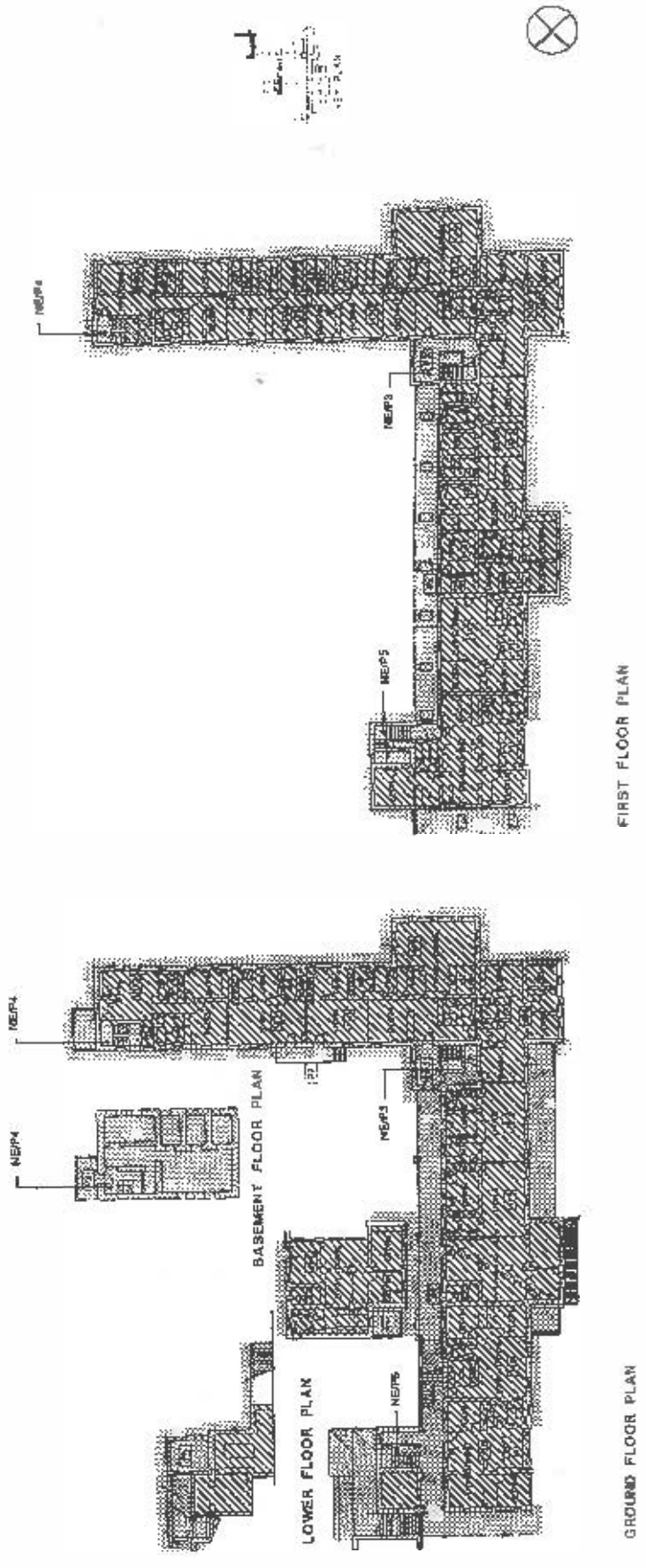


Figure 12 Levels of significance—North-east wing

4.5.1 Areas of Primary Significance

Spaces and elements of primary significance are those which:

- are predominantly intact in plan form or elevation, and in fabric, and/or
- are particularly demonstrative of the architectural concept, and/or
- are those which contribute in a fundamental way to an understanding of the cultural significance of the buildings and site.

• Building Exteriors

External areas of primary significance include the following:

<i>Main building</i>	All elevations, verandahs, roofs and chimneys to the centre-south, centre-north, south-west, west, south-east, east and north-east wings, and the east and west towers, <i>except</i> for the twentieth century additions to the south-west and south-east wings. North, south and east elevations of the north-west (former laundry) wing to the ground floor only. Covered ways linking the east and west wings to the centre-north wing.
<i>Privies</i>	All four of the surviving privies, to the extent of all elevations and roofs.
<i>Rear gate lodges</i>	All of the original masonry elevations, roofs and chimneys, and associated gate piers and boundary walls.
<i>Female outside ward</i>	East, north and south elevations, verandah and roof.
<i>Fever tents</i>	All elevations, roofs and verandahs.
<i>Sunshades</i>	The two surviving sunshades, to the extent of all original framing, roofs, seats and other original features.
<i>Boiler chimney</i>	All of the former laundry boiler chimney adjacent to the north-west wing.
<i>Cisterns</i>	All six of the underground water storage cisterns, including all underground fabric and surface manholes and covers.
<i>Boundary walls</i>	Existing sections of original perimeter wall to the east, west, north and south. Existing internal division walls. Original wall on west side of rear access road, to north of centre-north wing.

The approach to these areas should be:

Roofs

Retain existing slate roofs and lead roofs to all areas of primary significance without alteration to the original form and detailing of lead roll joints, hip flashings and other original details. Preferably fit lead valley gutters and hip and ridge flashings when existing galvanised steel reaches the end of its serviceable life. Retain original form of eaves framing, eaves gutters and downpipes.

Retain all existing chimneys. Repair defective render and brickwork where necessary. Cap unused flues.

Avoid insertion of flues or other non-original openings or projections in mansard roofs. Insert additional vents or other projections in other roofs only if alternatives are not possible and as discreetly as possible. Locate lightning conductors as discreetly as possible.

Walls

Retain original form and materials of walls to all areas of primary significance, including cornices, balconies, parapets, dormers and all decorative mouldings.

Make no further alterations to the existing form of the walls and original door and window openings, except to reverse previous alterations, or to relocate non-original ground floor door openings on the ward wings without increasing the total number of new door openings in each elevation. Relocated door openings should only be in adapted existing window openings. The height and width of these openings should not be altered.

Repair defective render and brickwork where necessary.

Fenestration

Retain original fenestration to all areas of primary significance.

Doors

Retain original door openings and joinery to all areas of primary significance. Reconstruct the altered door leaf, sidelights and stile skirtings to the centre door to match the original details.

Verandahs and covered ways

Retain all existing verandah and covered way roofs, columns and friezes. Retain basalt curbs at outer edge of paving. Reconstruct or restore missing, altered or defective elements to match original details.

Retain existing areas of terra cotta tile paving. Other areas of paving should be in sympathetic materials.

Paving and steps

Retain original basalt steps and sides.

External Painting

External painting to render, joinery to original doors and windows, and other original joinery and metalwork should match the original scheme. Painting to non-original doors and windows could be in alternative sympathetic colours.

Privies

Retain original external form and materials of walls and roof. Retain original window grilles and panelled doors. Restore original exposed brickwork by removing later paint and cement coatings.

Rear gate lodges

Retain original external form and materials of walls and roof. Retain original fenestration and doors.

Female outside ward

Retain original external form and materials of walls and roof. Retain original fenestration and doors.

Fever tents

Retain original external form of walls, roof and verandahs. Retain original materials of structural frame and wall claddings. Retain existing roof material or reinstate original cladding material. Retain original fenestration and doors.

Sunshades

Retain original form and materials, including timber framing, roofs, seats and other original features. Restore missing or defective items to match original details, including use of rustic timber to the west sunshade.

Boiler chimney

Retain existing external form and materials of the chimney.

Cisterns

Retain all original fabric, both underground and on surface. Leave exposed and accessible access openings into cisterns.

Boundary wall

Retain original form of walls. Do not form additional new openings. Restore original walls to match original construction in brick type, colour, coursing and capping brick details. Retain and restore existing stone copings. Reconstruct missing stone orbs to match original details.

Building Interiors

Internal spaces of primary significance (Figs. 5–12) are:

<i>Centre-south wing</i>	Ground floor central and cross corridors. First floor landings to east and west stairs. Centre stair and (original) west and (partly reconstructed) east stair.
<i>Centre-north wing</i>	Stair CN/P1. Basement vault under CN/P3.
<i>Ward wings</i>	Body Corporate stairs and corridors SW/P2, SW/P3 (with the exception of the space originally containing the demolished second stair), SE/P3, SE/P4 (with the exception of the space originally containing the demolished second stair), NE/P3, NE/P4 and NE/P5 Private stair to apartment 67 in west wing. South-west wing area SW/P6, comprising the first floor patients' rooms, gallery, and day room (together with stair SW/P2) which are being preserved as a museum and archives centre. North-east wing lower-ground floor 'dungeons' under apartment 152.

The approach to these areas should be:

<i>Walls</i>	Retain existing original form, materials and finishes of walls. Retain original plaster mouldings and other original details. No further alterations, such as construction of openings, should be carried out to original masonry walls, except to reverse previous alterations.
<i>Ceilings</i>	Retain original plaster, pressed metal, corrugated iron and other ceilings, cornices, roof trusses and other original elements, and repair where necessary.
<i>Floors</i>	Retain original floor constructions.
<i>Stairs</i>	Retain existing stairs, including treads, balustrades and rails. Reconstruct or restore missing, altered or damaged elements to match original details.

<i>Fittings</i>	<p>Retain all surviving original and later fittings such as manuels, joinery and door and window furniture.</p> <p>New light fittings if required should be of simple design appropriate to the spaces.</p>
<i>Internal Painting and Finishes</i>	<p>Retain existing painted finishes or restore to match original finishes.</p> <p>Retain exposed original or early paint finishes without overpainting where these survive in understair spaces and elsewhere as far as practicable.</p>

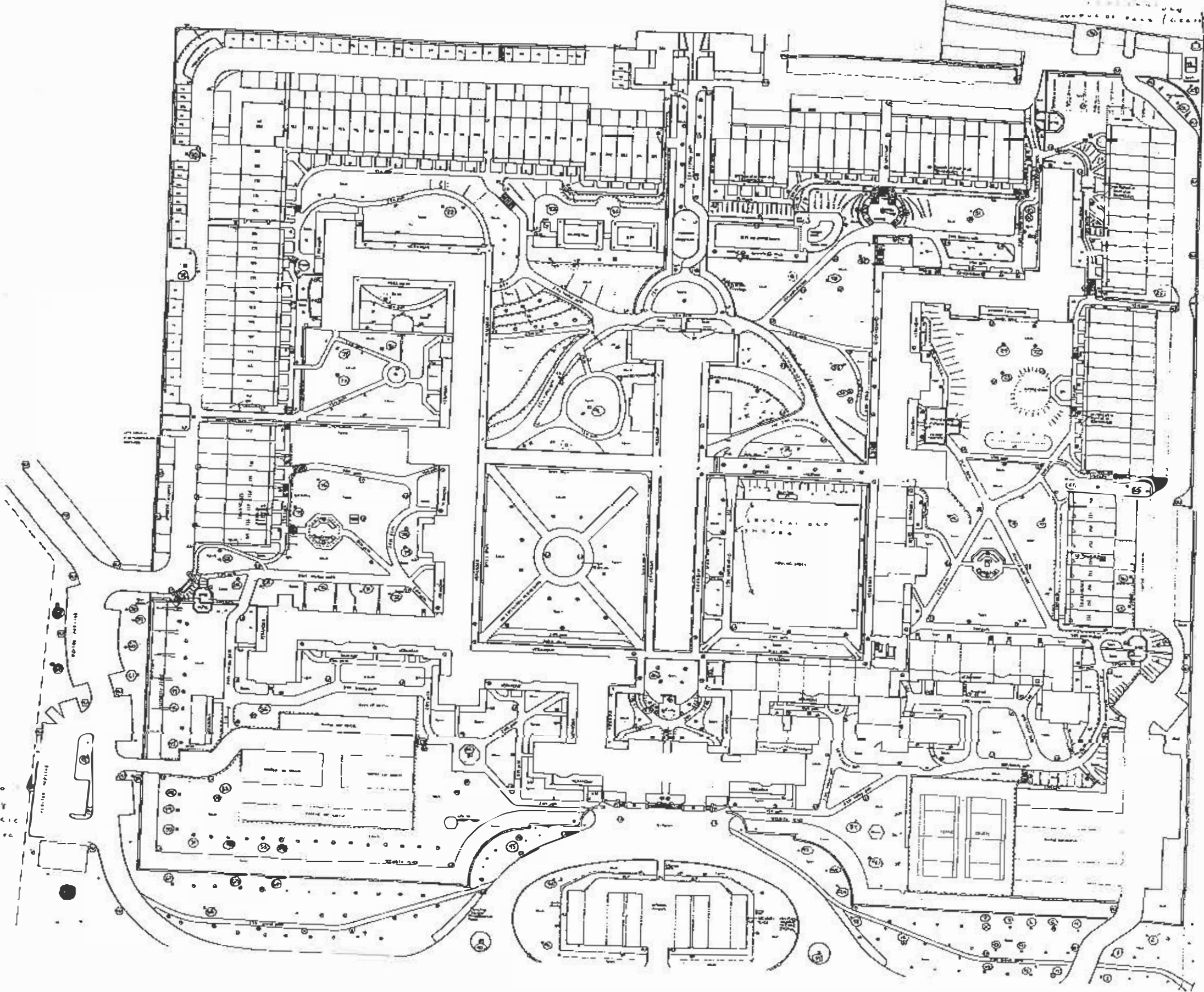
Landscape and Site

All areas of the Willsmere site between the existing structures, with the exception of the areas between the new town houses and the perimeter wall to the west, north and east and the north-east car park area beyond the perimeter wall, are of primary significance (Fig. 3). These areas include all of the airing courts and other areas within the line of the original perimeter wall, the west driveway area and the central oval forecourt, the flanking plantations and the embankment in front of the main building.

Within these areas of primary significance are the car parking areas in the south-east and south-west airing courts, the central forecourt and the west driveway area and other new structures and works constructed as part of the 1993-4 development works. None of these new structures or associated new works, such as roads, paving and new fencing, are individually significant. They do, however, clearly have impact on the surrounding areas and their sites are included in the areas of primary significance.

Significant trees listed in the Kew Planning Scheme, and other significant planting, are identified on Figure 13. The majority are trees which are significant on account of their age, size or rarity. Some listed trees are not of great age or heritage significance, but are included as particularly good examples with amenity value.

Some additional landscape areas of primary significance have been identified that are outside the existing Willsmere site. These areas include the double avenue, comprising *Quercus canariensis* (Algerian Oak), *Ulmus procera* (English Elm), and other trees including *Cupressus macrocarpa* (Moreton Bay Fig) and other conifers, flanking the original main driveway to the east (now within the Kew Cottages site), the line of grafted *Quercus canariensis* (Algerian Oak) outside the east perimeter wall, within the Kew Cottages site, and the avenue of *Quercus robur* (English Oak) and other early trees and planting in the area of the dairy and the bailiff's house site south-west of the Willsmere site. Although these areas are beyond the scope of this management plan, these areas provide important evidence of the original landscaping of the Willsmere site and it is recommended that the Kew Cottages management and Yarra Bend Park Trust are encouraged to properly conserve significant planting in these areas.



NO.	BOTANICAL NAME	AS SEEN (Y/N)	LISTED (Y/N)	REPLACE BY YEARS	COMMENTS
1	...	Y	Y
2	...	Y	Y
3	...	Y	Y
4	...	Y	Y
5	...	Y	Y
6	...	Y	Y
7	...	Y	Y
8	...	Y	Y
9	...	Y	Y
10	...	Y	Y
11	...	Y	Y
12	...	Y	Y
13	...	Y	Y
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15	...	Y	Y
16	...	Y	Y
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19	...	Y	Y
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26	...	Y	Y
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32	...	Y	Y
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90	...	Y	Y
91	...	Y	Y
92	...	Y	Y
93	...	Y	Y
94	...	Y	Y
95	...	Y	Y
96	...	Y	Y
97	...	Y	Y
98	...	Y	Y
99	...	Y	Y
100	...	Y	Y

1. 14 These trees are a remnant of the old site and are to be retained as much as possible. They are to be replaced by a new planting of the same species and size as the old ones. It is to be a mixture of species and sizes.

2. 21 Old trees to be retained as far as possible. They are to be replaced by a new planting of the same species and size as the old ones. It is to be a mixture of species and sizes.

3. 24 Old trees to be retained as far as possible. They are to be replaced by a new planting of the same species and size as the old ones. It is to be a mixture of species and sizes.

4. 24 Old trees to be retained as far as possible. They are to be replaced by a new planting of the same species and size as the old ones. It is to be a mixture of species and sizes.

5. 24 Old trees to be retained as far as possible. They are to be replaced by a new planting of the same species and size as the old ones. It is to be a mixture of species and sizes.

6. 24 Old trees to be retained as far as possible. They are to be replaced by a new planting of the same species and size as the old ones. It is to be a mixture of species and sizes.

7. 24 Old trees to be retained as far as possible. They are to be replaced by a new planting of the same species and size as the old ones. It is to be a mixture of species and sizes.

8. 24 Old trees to be retained as far as possible. They are to be replaced by a new planting of the same species and size as the old ones. It is to be a mixture of species and sizes.

9. 24 Old trees to be retained as far as possible. They are to be replaced by a new planting of the same species and size as the old ones. It is to be a mixture of species and sizes.

10. 24 Old trees to be retained as far as possible. They are to be replaced by a new planting of the same species and size as the old ones. It is to be a mixture of species and sizes.

Figure 13 Significant trees and other planting. Courtesy Holly Mitchell

Conservation guidelines are as follows:

- Existing Planting*** Retain and conserve identified significant trees and other planting (see Fig. 13). Prepare an arboricultural management plan (to be carried out by a suitably qualified and experienced arboriculturalist), to be updated annually, and maintain significant trees in accordance with the plan. Replace senescent and declining significant trees and other planting with similar species as necessary and as part of a phased planting programme.
- New Planting*** Plant new trees as required to replace missing or senescent trees, or in sympathy with the original planting scheme, to be of similar species or species appropriate to the nineteenth century. New shrubs and flower beds should use species appropriate to nineteenth century gardens. Generally the design of new planting should be consistent with the nineteenth century original garden design.
- Spoon drains*** Retain all original brick spoon drains. Reconstruct missing spoon drains to verandahs and walkways.
- Fences*** No additional fencing should be constructed, except as noted below for specific areas.
- Paving*** No additional paths or roads should be constructed.
- New structures*** Generally follow the policy contained in section 4.6 below. The design of future structures to replace the existing car shelters and other new structures is critical in areas of primary significance. Ensure that new structures do not compromise the integrity of significant structures and the site generally and that their visual or other impact is minimised.
- Oval forecourt*** Retain the original oval form of the forecourt. Retain the two *Phoenix canariensis* (Canary Island Palms) flanking the forecourt, and replace with the same species when this becomes necessary. Retain the reconstructed hairpin fencing to the outer perimeter of the forecourt. Reinstate conifers similar in location and species to the original trees within the forecourt. Preferably remove car parking and non-original fence types from the forecourt.

South-east and south-west plantations

Retain and conserve identified significant trees, including the *Araucaria cunninghamii* (Hoop Pine) in the east plantation and the *Araucaria bidwillii* (Bunya Bunya Pine) in the west plantation, and the remnant *Rosea banksiae* (Banksia Rose) hedge at the edge of the west plantation. Replace senescent and declining significant trees and shrubs with similar species as necessary and as part of a cyclical planting programme.

Maintain the original planting pattern of three staggered rows of trees at regular intervals. New shrubs and flower beds should be restricted to the area adjacent to the road.

Consider reconstructing the hairpin fencing to the perimeter of the plantations to match the original design.

South-west front airing court

Retain the existing regularly spaced line of *Quercus robur* (English Oak) parallel to the south and west boundary walls. Replace missing and senescent trees. Retain the large *Pinus radiata* (Monterey Pine) and *Cupressus torulosa* (Bhutan Cypress) if this is possible in spite of root damage, or replace with the same species. Retain the bed of hydrangeas next to the south-west wing.

East and west airing courts

Retain and conserve identified significant trees, including *Quercus robur* (English Oak) and *Platanus x acerifolius* (London Plane), and replace as needed as part of a phased programme.

Inner airing courts

Retain the original form of the path system and central flower bed in the west (female) airing court. Retain the form of the bowling green in the east (male) airing court. Retain original symmetrical path layoutsweeping around each side of the centre-north wing from the rear gate lodges.

Retain and conserve identified significant trees, including two *Cedrus deodara* (Deodar Cedar) on sloping bank each side of the centre-north wing.

Retain *Prunus ilicifolia* (Holly-leaf Cherry) in centre court, north of centre-south wing, as long as feasible. Plant phased replacement. The *Eucalyptus citriodora*/*Eucalyptus maculata* (Lemon-scented/Spotted Gum) hybrid is growing too large for this confined space and should be removed in the next five years.

South embankment

(Leased to Yarra Bend Park Trust) Reconstruction of the original gardenesque groupings of similar tree species could be considered. However retention of the existing informal broad mix of *Quercus robur* (English Oak), *Ficus macrocarpa* (Moreton Bay Fig), *Cedrus deodara* (Deodar Cedar) and other species is more likely to be feasible, at least in the short to medium term. Working in conjunction with the Yarra Bend Park Trust, plant phased replacements of senescent trees, working towards reinstatement of the original design. Retain Hawthorn hedge at base of embankment and restore as a hedge. Remove *Pittosporum undulatum* (Sweet Pittosporum).

Investigate by archaeological excavation or other means, to be approved by Heritage Victoria, for remains of the central embankment steps. Consider reconstructing the steps and the path leading down to the Boulevard. Paths in the embankment area should be informal in character and gravelled.

West driveway

Retain existing *Quercus canariensis* (Algerian Oak) (including grafted example), *Quercus robur* (English Oak) and other species lining the driveway west of the complex. Replacement planting should aim to retain and reinforce the effect of the drive as an informally tree-lined avenue, and to screen as far as possible the Kew Gardens housing.

4.5.2 Areas of Contributory Significance

Spaces and areas of contributory significance are those which are:

- areas of the original complex which have been altered but retain significant original fabric and evidence of the original nature and functioning of the areas, and/or
- are of a secondary nature in the understanding of the cultural significance of the buildings and site.

While they are not of individual distinction with regard to original plan form, fabric or function, they contribute to the significance of the whole site.

• Building Exteriors

The remaining fabric of the partly demolished dairy south-west of the main complex is of contributory significance. This structure is within Yarra Bend Park and is outside the Willsmere site and the scope of this conservation management plan. Yarra Bend Park Trust should be encouraged to preserve and stabilise the remaining fabric and to provide adequate protection against vandalism.

All of the building exteriors within the Willsmere site have been assessed as being of either primary or no significance.

• Building Interiors

Internal spaces of contributory significance (Figs. 5-12) are:

Main building

All internal spaces, with the exception of spaces of primary significance, identified in the preceding section, and spaces of no significance, identified in the following section.

All attic roof spaces to the main building apart from those to the twentieth century extensions to the south-west, north-west and east wings.

Privies

Interiors of the south-west and north-east privies.

Fever tents

Interiors of both fever tents.

The approach to these areas should be:

Walls

Retain remaining form, materials and finishes of original walls. Retain original plaster mouldings, skivings and other original details.

<i>Ceilings</i>	Retain original plaster, pressed metal, corrugated iron and other ceilings, cornices, roof trusses and other original elements, and repair where necessary.
<i>Floors</i>	Retain original floor constructions.
<i>Stairs</i>	Retain original stairs, including treads, balustrades and rails and other details. Reconstruct or restore missing, altered or damaged elements to match original details.
<i>Fixings</i>	Retain all surviving original fixings such as mantels, door, window and other joinery and door and window furniture.
<i>Internal Painting and Finishes</i>	Decorative finishes should be sympathetic to the character of the space. Retain existing exposed original or early paint finishes without overpainting in understair spaces and elsewhere as far as practicable. Retain existing finishes in the north-east privy.
<i>Roof spaces</i>	Retain existing roof trusses and other timber framing, floor boarding and other original fabric. Retain existing open form without further subdivision unless required for future fire safety reasons.
<i>Alterations</i>	Limit future alterations to non-original walls and other non-original elements and decorative finishes in accordance with the following guidelines, or to reversal of previous alterations. Preserve the north-east privy without alteration. Permitted alterations in apartments and other areas of contributory significance include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • New lightweight partitions and false ceilings, provided that no original fabric is demolished, removed or altered. • Decorative finishes, provided that they do not damage original fabric. • New floor coverings laid over protective underlay on original flooring.

- New kitchen, bathroom and laundry fixtures and fittings, and cupboards and shelves, provided that these do not damage original fabric.
- New wiring, plumbing and other services including penetrations through original walls, ceilings and floors not more than 150 mm diameter.

- **Landscape and Site**

All areas of the site have been assessed as being of either primary or no significance.

4.5.3 Areas of No Significance

Spaces and areas of no significance are those which are:

- structures which are of twentieth century construction and do not contribute to an understanding of the original nature and functioning of the site, or
- areas of the original complex which have been altered to such a degree that original fabric and evidence of the original nature and functioning of the areas is largely lost.

- **Building Exteriors**

External areas of no significance include the following:

<i>Main building</i>	Twentieth century additions to the south-west and south-east wings. West elevation of the north-west (former laundry) wing and north, south and east elevations to the first floor only.
<i>Rear gate lodges</i>	Later timber-framed and weatherboarded wings.
<i>Female outside ward</i>	West elevation.
<i>Boundary walls</i>	New sections of perimeter wall to the west and south. New retaining walls north of the centre north wing and elsewhere.
<i>New buildings</i>	Town houses, car shelters and other new structures.

The approach to these areas should be:

<i>Generally</i>	Demolish or adapt as required.
	Limit any future adaptation of the existing fabric to remain within the existing building envelopes, without extension. Adaptation should be sympathetic to the original design, to the site as a whole and particularly to the significant structures.

<i>Main Building</i>	Limit any future adaptation of elevations to areas of no significance to the already altered west elevation of the north-west wing. Retain the existing form and fenestration to the other elevations in order to remain sympathetic to adjacent significant areas. Repainting of walls, joinery or other external elements should match the colours used for the original buildings.
	In the event of demolition of previous extensions to the original buildings, reconstruct the remaining parts of original buildings to match the original form and design.
<i>Rear gate lodges</i>	Adapt or demolish later timber-framed and weatherboarded wings as required.
<i>Female outside ward</i>	Adapt west elevation as required within existing building envelope.
<i>Boundary walls</i>	Retain brick perimeter wall to the west and south. Consider alleviating existing harsh appearance by growing climbing plants or other means.
<i>New buildings</i>	Adapt or demolish town houses, car shelters and other new structures as required, within existing building envelopes.

Building Interiors

Internal spaces of no significance (Figs. 5-12) are:

<i>Main building</i>	
<i>South-west and south-east wings</i>	Interiors of twentieth century additions.
<i>Northwest wing</i>	Interiors of twentieth century first floor additions.
<i>Centre-north wing</i>	Bathrooms, toilets and store rooms to lower ground floor apartments 24 and 25. Interiors of ground floor apartments 19, 20, 26 and 27, and plant room adjacent to stair CN/P4.
<i>Rear gate lodges</i>	All interior spaces.
<i>Female outside ward</i>	All interior spaces.
<i>Privies</i>	Interiors of south-east and north-west privies.

New buildings

All interior spaces of town houses and other new structures.

The approach to these areas should be:

Generally

Adapt as required, provided that this does not compromise remaining significant original features and adjacent significant areas, and subject to the following:

Main building and original sections of rear gate lodges

Retain original structural walls and other surviving original fabric in areas of centre-north wing assessed as having no individual significance and in original sections of rear gate lodges.

Preferably retain original structural walls and other original fabric in twentieth century additions to south-west, south-east and north-west wings, if these areas are to be retained.

Preferably limit future alterations to the above areas to non-original walls and other non-original elements and decorative finishes in accordance with the following guidelines, or to reverse previous alterations.

Permitted alterations in apartments in the above areas include:

- New lightweight partitions and false ceilings, provided that no original fabric is demolished, removed or altered.
- Decorative finishes, provided that they do not damage original fabric.
- New floor coverings laid over protective underlay on original flooring.
- New kitchen, bathroom and laundry fixtures and fittings, and cupboards and shelves, provided that these do not damage original fabric.
- New wiring, plumbing and other services including penetrations through original walls, ceilings and floors not more than 150 mm diameter.

Female outside ward and south-east and north-west privies

Retain original structural walls and other surviving original fabric.

New buildings

Adapt or demolish interior spaces of town houses and other new structures as required.

Landscape and Site

The following areas are of no individual significance:

Areas between the town houses and the perimeter walls to the west, north and east.

The north-east car park area beyond the perimeter wall

Town house private gardens

These areas have been substantially altered previously or by the 1993-4 works. Some significant early trees and other planting, as well as significant built elements such as the boundary walls, survive. The conservation approach generally should be to preserve significant planting and other significant elements and to minimise the negative impact of the new structures on the site.

Conservation guidelines are as follows:

<i>Existing Planting</i>	Retain and conserve identified significant trees and other planting in accordance with the arboricultural management plan. These include a large <i>Eucalyptus camaldulensis</i> (River Red Gum) adjacent to the west boundary. Replace senescent and declining significant trees with similar species as necessary and as part of a phased planting programme.
<i>New Planting</i>	New planting can be flexibly designed, and is not restricted to nineteenth century species. New planting should not detract from the character of nearby significant areas.
<i>Fences</i>	No additional fencing should be constructed.
<i>Paving</i>	No additional paths or roads should be constructed.

4.6 New Construction

No further new construction should be carried out, except for the following:

- New construction to replace town houses, car shelters or other 1993-4 structures that may be demolished in the future, not to exceed the existing building envelopes.
- Limited numbers of minor garden structures, provided that their siting and design do not compromise the integrity of the significant buildings or the site.

5.0 INTERPRETATION PLAN

5.1 Introduction

The HBC permit for the redevelopment of Willsmere requires that an Interpretative Policy for the place be established and agreed between the Council and the Developer (Central Equity Ltd.)

To interpret means to "clarify or explain the meaning of", "to construe the significance of", "to represent the spirit of".

Interpretation of historic places is necessary where the significance of the place is not easily recognised, or critical components of the site are lost and obscured. The 1993-4 Willsmere development works resulted in exterior restoration of the historic buildings and historic landscape features and has provided a site where most of the critical elements are physically intact, but these are not easily interpreted by the layman without some explanation.

Since Willsmere is Australia's largest 19th century building complex and its layout reflects a special social function of the 19th century it is a valuable and significant piece of Victoria's heritage. Its extraordinary site layout and historic structures remain to represent Victoria's largest most intact Hospital for the Insane (Lunatic Asylum) and exhibit medical, social and functional arrangements which are now largely obsolete, but which still have high aesthetic and engineering value. This site layout, its historic building elevations and the ancillary structures such as the Airing Court Walls, Privies, Gate Lodges and Fever Tents are only fully appreciated when inspected from within the boundary walls of the former Asylum.

An appropriate policy for the interpretation of this complicated site is to provide a range of accurate and comprehensive information to the public about its historical function, and to allow public access within the site in order that this can be fully appreciated. An outline policy was developed in 1993 by agreement with Central Equity Ltd. and the Historic Buildings Council and incorporated in the Body Corporate Rules pursuant to the HBC Permit for redevelopment of the site by Central Equity Ltd. as a private residential complex. The purpose of this chapter of the Conservation Management Plan is to establish the details of the policy, and the strategy by which the various policy elements are to be carried out.

5.2 Interpretation Policy: Public Zone

Willsmere has a publicly accessible zone (its front courtyard and drive) from where it is possible to view the enormous facade of the building within its front wall and appreciate the garden setting of Plantations and Oval Forecourt set on an 1873 man made earth platform; the Embankment and its informal Walk which forms the edge of this platform. This zone abuts the Yarra Bend Park which contains remnants of the Asylum Dairy. The casual visitor approaching this historic facade arrives either on foot through the Yarra Bend Park or by car from the Yarra Boulevard.

This zone should contain an accurate brief interpretive sign or notice explaining what the building is and the significance of the man made landscape, and also provide information about times and dates for public access within the site.

Such a sign should be of an appropriate scale and quality, located on the south-west corner of the main drive. (Suitable examples of such a sign are the City of Melbourne historical interpretation signs in Bourke St., Collins St. etc. screen printed onto metal and encased in metal and acrylic frame. A large semi-permanent signboard, in this location at Willsmere was installed during 1995 out of necessity to identify the whereabouts of the entrance for visitors to residents' units, delivery purposes etc. This sign should be replaced or augmented by a smaller more comprehensive sign in more permanent materials as described above).

The Walk at the base of the Embankment, and the Dairy floor should be preserved in their current state (with appropriate restoration or repairs) by the Yarra Bend Park Trust as part of the former Hospital environs. These should be identified with small signposts or plaques.

In addition, the National Trust of Australia (Victoria) should be invited to install its plaque on the wall adjacent the front entrance door of Willsmere. Also if agreed by the Body Corporate, Trust plaques should also be placed on the walls adjacent each of the doors in the flanking porches of the entrance facade (Centre South Block) indicating these entrances as the 1872 Male Patients Admission Door (east porch) and the 1872 Female Patients Admission Door (west porch). These plaques should be funded by the Developer (Central Equity Ltd.).

5.3 Interpretation Policy: Private Residential Zone

An outline Interpretation Policy suitable for Willsmere in its new function as a private multi-dwelling residential complex was agreed by the Historic Buildings Council in 1993. This policy is contained in the Body Corporate Rules and can be summarised briefly as:

1. That a representative Ward interior be preserved by the Body Corporate as an Interpretative Centre available for supervised public viewing by appointment.
2. That a Willsmere Archive (containing artefacts and copies of historic and contemporary documents such as plans, maps, reports etc.) be established within the interpretive Centre, maintained by the Body Corporate, and made available to the public as above.
3. That, if required by the HBC, the Body Corporate provides up to 2 guided "Garden Tours" per annum, of the common areas (Gardens, and interiors of the Interpretive Centre, Fever tents, most intact Privy and bluestone cell block).

5.4 Interpretive Centre Policy Guidelines / Details

The purpose of the Interpretive Centre is to allow a public appreciation of the original interior form and detail of the 1872 Asylum ward, which were typically laid out within the male and female wings in a standard repetitive manner using standard materials, room sizes and fixtures such as fireplaces. These internal arrangements are now largely lost or obscured by the interior subdivision of the Asylum wings to create private residential apartments.

The Interpretive Centre consists of a complete ward of the original 1872 Hospital layout and is to be preserved in perpetuity as an example of the original Asylum lifestyle and layout. This Centre comprises a ground floor entrance and stairwell with a landing at first floor leading to a large 'Day Room' which then opens into a wide Gallery serving a number of small rooms along one side (an Attendants' Room, 9 bedrooms and a store).

Stairwell

This, similar to all Body Corporate common property stairwells which are original (1872) stairwells, should be preserved intact in its form, 1994 Interpretive paint colour scheme, and riveted steel tank mounted within the space. This space is also (as proposed by the Museum Consultant Group, see below) to house examples of the iron 'Ships Tanks' removed from the large East and West Towers for public inspection, with an interpretive plaque.

Dayroom/Library

The Body Corporate is to establish a Reading Room/Library for residents' use in the large 'Day Room', which is fitted with modern carpet, under carpet heating, library furniture and a permanent display of framed photographs of historic images of Willsmere which provide a short visual survey of the history of the place for both visitors and residents' appreciation.

Gallery, Attendants' Room and Bedrooms

This area beyond containing the Gallery and bedrooms is to be preserved as it was in 1988 when Willsmere was closed as a Mental Health Authority Institution. It is reasonably intact to its 1872 form except for the 1988 floor and wall finishes, bricked-up fireplaces, modern heating and lighting. This area is primarily a Museum space containing the Willsmere Archive and should be kept locked, with access available to Willsmere residents and members of the public only under supervision, at the appointed opening times.

5.5 Interpretive Strategy for the Private Residential Zone

Interpretive Materials and Displays

The strategy for interpretation of the historic grounds, Library and Museum is to provide supervised public access with knowledgeable supervisors or guides to give accurate verbal explanations and guidance, supplemented with interpretive 'hardware' as follows:

1. A free pamphlet outlining the history and development of Willsmere as a whole explaining the function of the various wings and associated gardens, and in particular the original functional layout of the preserved Ward. This should be prepared carefully by professional Museum curators and available to residents and the public at the point of entry to the Interpretive Centre (the Landing), or upon the commencement of the Garden Tour. This pamphlet provides the "architectural trail" for interpretation of the site and its buildings. It should be provided by the Body Corporate in a cheaply reproduced (e.g. A4 photocopy) form.
2. An interpretive display within the Museum space explaining some aspects of the social conditions, treatment therapies and activities during the history of the Asylum, using some of the artefacts available. This should be prepared and mounted by professional Museum curators as a small, durable and permanent display. The Body Corporate should maintain the display in a proper condition. Alteration or addition of material to the display should be made only by professional Museum curators and the Body Corporate should seek the advice of the Museum of Victoria, or the original Museum consultant group, should it desire changes to the display. The Body Corporate should be willing to liaise and co-operate with the Museum of Victoria on matters associated with the Willsmere Museum such as special access, loans of artefacts etc.

3. Install interpretive signage, of high quality design and production, in approved locations. Allow for on-going maintenance of interpretive signage.

Public access guidelines

This policy recognises that provision for public access to this private zone (within the walls) is necessary, but must be restricted for residents' security and privacy, as well as for protection of the buildings, ground and the Interpretive Centre and its contents.

Supervision of public access should be provided by suitably qualified personnel who can provide verbal interpretation of an informative, even comprehensive quality. The Willsmere Body Corporate is responsible for maintaining the Interpretive Centre and providing public access and should therefore supply the supervisory personnel during times of public access.

The costs if any of employing such personnel should be offset by charging admission fees of a reasonable amount (e.g. \$5 per adult for admission to the Interpretive Centre, and \$8-10 for admission to a 'Garden Tour').

Any profit made by the Body Corporate as a result of charging admission fees should be reserved in a fund to be specifically used for the running costs, maintenance and improvement of the Interpretation Centre.

Times of public access are proposed for 1996 as follows, but these could be altered or augmented as desired by the Body Corporate in future years:

Interpretive Centre -

Open at least twice per year.

Garden Tours -

Open at least twice per year as per Interpretation Centre and preferably at least once in spring when the garden looks its best. Bookings essential, public visitors to assemble outside Main Entrance at appointed time for a 3-4 hour guided tour. Visitors should be divided into groups of 20 persons and a supervisor allocated to each group.

The Body Corporate should be responsible for advertising the public opening times and admission fees for the Willsmere Interpretive (Museum) Centre and for the "Garden Tours" through appropriate means including the Interpretive Signboard in Main Drive, and letters to relevant heritage, municipal and local history organisations. Current possibilities for advertising public access to Willsmere also include the Open Garden Scheme (through booklet and telephone information line) and the Age ('What's On' guide). Should these options be unavailable in future similar types of publicising should be pursued.

Willsmere Archive

The Archive consists of two parts. The first is a random collection of artefacts found in various parts of the former Hospital during the 1993-4 Central Equity redevelopment works. (Many of the historically significant artefacts are now part of the Museum of Victoria collection after having been taken from the Hospital during the 1950's and assembled as an historic

collection of remnants for the future. Many other pieces of furniture and equipment were taken away by the Mental Health Authority upon its departure in 1988, and the remainder was lost during the 1988-93 period when the obsolete artefacts were disposed of by the previous private owners, Jennings Industries). The existing collection of artefacts are of varying significance. Many items are remnants of original or early building fabric (collected during the 1994 demolition phase) and as such are of limited public interest. This artefact collection should be catalogued by professional curators, preserved within the Museum space and used as a resource for creating an interpretive display.

The second part of the Willsmere Archive to be established is a collection of available documentary evidence in copied form of the original and subsequent development of Willsmere (i.e. maps, drawings, reports, photographs etc.) which are to be stored in lockable cabinets within one of the bedrooms. This documentary archive is primarily intended as a resource for Willsmere's architectural history, future conservation, etc. and should also contain current documents such as the Conservation Management Plan, and all relevant Body Corporate records on the day-to-day and cyclical maintenance program for the historic fabric of the place. As such this documentary archive has limited public interest. Its use would be reserved for conservation Architects involved with Willsmere, historical research etc. Any public access e.g. by students, should be made under supervision. The material in the Archive should be catalogued properly by a qualified person, with information as to its origins. As most of the documentary material is available at primary sources such as the Public Records Office or the State Library, the catalogue alone would provide a good guide to any researcher or interested person and therefore should be made available to the public upon request.

A detailed proposal for the establishment of the archive has been prepared by Richard Gillespie and Lisa Cianci and is included as Appendix F.

6.0 PROPOSED FUTURE WORKS

6.1 Introduction

The following sections include future recommended works arising from the conservation plan. The works include outstanding works to be completed by the developer in the near future and longer term works and ongoing maintenance work that will be the responsibility of the Body Corporate. The recommended works are listed as follows:

- Essential remedial and conservation works to be completed in accordance with HBC permit conditions by the Developer.
- Recommended further remedial and conservation works to be carried out subsequently by the Body Corporate
- Recommended works for implementation of the interpretation plan, to be carried out by the Developer, and programme to be managed by the Body Corporate.
- An outline programme for cyclical maintenance of the significant building fabric and landscape, to be managed and carried out by the Body Corporate.

These works apply generally to the historic structures on the Willsmere site which are designated on the Historic Buildings Register and to site and landscaping works generally. The designated historic structures include the main building, privies, rear gate lodges, sunshades and the perimeter and alring court walls. The works listed below do not apply to maintenance of the new townhouses, car shelters and other new structures, or to other non-conservation works that may be required.

The essential remedial and conservation works to be completed by the Developer mainly comprise making good of defects in the completed 1993-4 development works. A recent inspection of the completed works was carried out by the conservation consultants Willys Span Keeble and Peter Kerr, and a detailed schedule of required works has been prepared.

The remaining recommended remedial and conservation works and the ongoing cyclical maintenance will be the responsibility of the Body Corporate. These works are to be funded by a Sinking Fund established in the Body Corporate rules specifically for the purpose of conserving the designated buildings and structures and landscape.

Interpretation works to be completed by the Developer within the next twelve months, to comply with the HBC permit, include building works to fit out the archive centre, installation of signage, establishing the archive collection, and printing of explanatory literature and leaflets. The Body Corporate will be responsible generally for ongoing management costs in connection with the Archives Centre and running of public tours of the Willsmere complex. These ongoing costs to the Body Corporate are also intended to be funded from the Sinking Fund.

The intention of the following schedules of works to be carried out by the Body Corporate is that they be used as a basis for estimating future costs to be funded from the sinking fund. It is envisaged that the annual expenditure will fluctuate as remedial and conservation works are carried out in the early years and as peaks occur at regular intervals in future years when major maintenance is undertaken. Reasonable provision should be made for unforeseeable works and for unpredictable factors such as any tender deterioration.

It is recommended that the Body Corporate obtain a financial plan covering future works requirements. The financial plan should include itemised budget cost estimates for the works with forward projections of future works costs taking into account anticipated rises in building costs. The financial plan should be prepared to analyse future expenditure requirements with a view to estimating a realistic level at which the sinking fund contributions could be set. This process should involve the Body Corporate Manager, the approved conservation consultant and suitably qualified building experts as required.

6.2 Remedial Works

6.2.1 Essential and immediate (to be carried out by the developer)

Outstanding defects Carry out all remedial works to external render, pointing, verandah flashings and window joinery and other making good of defects in completed conservation and remedial works as scheduled by the conservation consultants.

Allow for inspection of these works and obtain final approval by the conservation consultants.

Perimeter and airing court walls Complete further remedial works to perimeter and internal airing court walls, including replacement of isolated frost or mechanically damaged bricks and pointing of cracked or eroded joints. Point open joints in stone cappings to south perimeter wall to prevent moisture ingress to brickwork below (work currently in progress).

6.2.2 Further desirable remedial and conservation works preferably to be carried out by the Body Corporate.

This work includes extra items which were not required as part of the original project but which are desirable for the long-term conservation of the structure. They include such things as reconstruction of missing details, works intended to regain some of the original aesthetic quality and removal of intrusive elements.

Centre-south wing balustrading Replace existing rendered precast concrete circular balustrading to the south elevation balconies with solid pressed cement balustrading matching the original detail, when failure of the existing render occurs.

Basalt sub-walls Consider reinstatement of the original tickpointed finish to the basalt sub walls to the main building.

Roof Install automatically retractable sunshading to east and west tower roof lights to protect roof timbers below from sun and excessive drying out.

<i>Rainwater drainage</i>	Fit lead or stainless steel overflow chutes to parapet gutters to centre-south wing balconies and to centre-north wing tower. Fit chutes to gutter catchpits passing through wall to direct overflow water outside.
<i>Cisterns</i>	Inspect remaining 4 no cisterns, apart from the two previously stabilised underground cisterns above the fever tents and swimming pool. Carry out remedial works if required.
<i>Walls</i>	Strip paint from basalt window sills, possibly at the next repainting cycle, and leave unpainted Investigate in the future new non-damaging means of removing paint and cement slurry from north-west privy and rear gate lodge walls.
<i>Doors</i>	Reconstruct centre front entrance door to centre-south wing to match original details, if adequate evidence of the design can be found.
<i>Interior</i>	Remove existing non-original steel tube handrails to internal stair SE/FP3, and reinstate recessed timber rail to match original design. Relocate intrusive fire hose cupboard in ground floor corridor (centre-south wing) opposite entry to Apartment 3.
<i>Painting</i>	Carry out more detailed investigations of original paint finishes to external render, window, door and caves joinery, vent grilles, verandah columns, friezes and roof underboarding, and to ward wing stair wells. Consider reinstating these finishes at the next painting maintenance cycle. Reconstruct early stencilled decorative scheme in ground floor corridors and stair well in centre-south wing, following investigation results available in the Willsmere archives centre.
<i>Landscape</i>	Carry out approved archaeological investigation of embankment south of the main complex to locate any remains of the original steps. Reconstruct the steps to the centre of the embankment and the path down from the steps to the Boulevard. Allow for dressed basalt steps and sides. (Possibly to be carried out by or in conjunction with the Yarra Bend Park Trust).

6.3 Interpretation Works

6.3.1 Work to be carried out by the Developer

Museum and archives centre

Engage a suitably qualified archivist or museums consultant to carry out or advise on the design, content and initial setting up of the archive and museum, to include the following:

Making copies and storage of full sets of the nineteenth century working drawings of the complex, the 1984 existing conditions survey drawings, as built drawings of the current conversion works, historic photographs and other documentary material relating to the history of Willsmere. Allow for search of all available collections for possible material for inclusion.

Cataloguing of all documentary material and artefacts in the archives centre collection.

Conservation works to the collection.

Establishing an archive and resource centre and exhibition including artefacts, documents and high quality interpretive material.

Design and production of an interpretive pamphlet for distribution to visitors and residents.

Carry out building and fit-out works in accordance with approved plan for the museum and archives centre.

6.3.1 Work to be carried out by the Body Corporate (to be funded from the Sinking Fund)

Tours

Allow for publicity and administration costs in connection with bi-annual public tours of the gardens and buildings, including printing costs for interpretive pamphlet, advertising and tour guide costs.

Archives centre

Allow for on-going management and maintenance costs in connection with the museum and archives centre, to include supervision of users of the centre on either a voluntary or paid basis, conservation work to the collection and maintenance of the building fabric of the archives centre.

Signage

Allow for on-going maintenance of interpretive signage.

6.4 Cyclical Maintenance

The following outline programme for cyclical maintenance is intended as a guide to the likely scope of such works in the future. These works would be the responsibility of the Body Corporate and would not be funded from the Sinking Fund. The detailed planning of such

works would be carried out as part of the annual review of the conservation plan to be carried out by the appointed Conservation Architect as required by Body Corporate rules.

Maintenance log book

A record of all alterations, repairs and maintenance to Body Corporate areas should be kept in a suitable log book. The log book should contain check lists for all of the cyclical maintenance items.

Maintenance contracts

Annual contracts for some half-yearly and annual items listed below, such as servicing of fire alarm and sprinkler systems, clearing of gutters, overhaul of roofs, structural monitoring and garden maintenance, are recommended.

Day-to-day maintenance

Although ongoing day-to-day maintenance will be required, it is intended that the cost of such work is to be funded by general Body Corporate funds rather than by the sinking fund. The sinking fund is specifically intended to cover the costs of major cyclical maintenance work to the designated buildings and landscape, as set out in the following section, as well as the further remedial and conservation works and costs relating to the interpretation programme as set out above.

Day-to-day maintenance items would include the following:

Cleaning and general maintenance of common areas.

General landscaping maintenance, including clearing rubbish, mowing lawns and tending and restocking garden beds. Maintain mulched areas around trees using herbicide or hand weeding. Maintain integrity of mowing strips around historic structures using herbicide or shears, and avoiding use of line trimmers. Monitor sprinklers and control gear, and maintain as necessary. Ensure that sprinklers do not cause damp build-up around buildings.

Cyclical Maintenance

The following sections itemise the main cyclical maintenance work required, which should be funded by the Body Corporate or the Sinking fund as shown.

Monthly or twice yearly

- BC: Clear out storm water drainage pits at bases of all rainwater pipes to verandahs and main building and elsewhere at monthly intervals.
- BC: Clean out all gutters and rainwater pipes at least twice yearly, and inspect rainwater goods for blockages and leaks.
- BC: Monitor storm water and subsoil drainage system generally for adequacy following periods of heavy rainfall.

Annually

- BC: Test smoke alarms, fire sprinkler systems and other Body Corporate services at intervals as recommended by the installer.
- SF: Allow for annual inspection and conservation plan by the appointed Conservation Architect on required maintenance and conservation works. Allow an annual budget of \$7,000 in accordance with the Body Corporate rules.
- BC: Allow for annual inspection and report by a suitably qualified arboriculturalist on required maintenance works to trees, including trees along the east boundary overhanging the Willsmere site.
- BC: Inspect roof externally and roof spaces internally for slipped slates, leaks and other defects, and repair as necessary.
- BC: Inspect chimneys and accessible sections of flues for deterioration of render or other defects.
- BC: Inspect walls visually from ground level for defects, and repair as necessary.
- BC: Monitor walls of main building, particularly at junctions of bay windows and main walls, and boundary and airing court walls and the boiler house chimney for structural movement or other defects, and carry out remedial works as necessary.
- BC: Monitor walls for rising and penetrating damp, and carry out remedial works as necessary.
- BC: Inspect all window, door and other external joinery and repair any decayed or defective items.
- BC: Clean internal walls, joinery and fittings in Body Corporate areas, and touch up worn or damaged areas of paintwork.
- BC: Inspect all foul and stormwater and subsoil drain inspection chambers and rod through all drains to clear blockages.
- BC: Test all common electrical installations within designated buildings and the site generally, and service as necessary.
- BC: Inspect and service smoke alarm and sprinkler systems in designated buildings.
- BC: Test lightning protection systems in designated buildings in accordance with the installers' recommendations, and service as necessary.

- BC:** Carry out maintenance work as recommended by arboriculturalist, including painting to clear roofs, walls and gutters of historic buildings, pruning regrowth on plane trees and adjustment of control cables.
- SF:** Implement phased replacement of senescent and decayed trees and other replanting, in accordance with the annual arboricultural management plan using similar and appropriate species. Allow provisionally for replacement of fluctuating numbers of trees annually, averaging approximately 1-2 trees per annum, commencing after the first five years from completion of the current works.
- BC:** Allow annual contingency sum for unforeseen additional repairs as required and as recommended by the conservation architect.
- Every five years* **SF:** Clean down and paint galvanised steel hip and ridge flashings, and inside eaves and valley gutters, with suitable corrosion-inhibiting paint.
- Every 8-10 years* **SF:** Inspect all external window and other joinery for decay or other defects and repair as found necessary. Give priority to sills and other weather excluding items.
- SF:** Paint external window and all other joinery in exposed locations, verandah columns, friezes and gutters.
- SF:** Replace defective areas of subsoil drainage as required.
- Every ten years* **SF:** Repair and paint external render. Allow provisionally for replacement of approximately 2.5% of wall area every ten years. Allow for complete repainting.
- SF:** Point eroded or open jointed brick and stone joints to boundary walls and basalt sub-walls. Cut out and replace to match eroded bricks.
- SF:** Paint external door and window joinery under verandahs and in other sheltered locations.
- SF:** Paint eaves rafters, soffits, fascias and other eaves timbers and galvanised steel eaves gutters.
- SF:** Repair and repaint woodwork to sashades.

- BC:** Overhaul or replace fire alarm and sprinkler systems, electrical and other services for which the Body Corporate is responsible. Allow for all making good of existing fabric in connection with replacement of wiring, piping and the like.
- BC:** Test entire storm water and foul drainage systems and replace any defective items as necessary.
- SF:** Repair or replace paving to verandahs and walkways and other historic paths.
- Every 25-30 years*
- SF:** Replace existing galvanised steel valley gutters, ridge and hip cappings and eaves gutters. Lift and relay slating as required to allow replacement of valleys.
- SF:** Replace galvanised corrugated iron roofs to verandahs, walkways and sun shades.
- SF:** Replace plastic dome roof lights to tower roofs. Overhaul or replace as required Deluge roof lights to verandahs.
- Every 50-70 years*
- SF:** Reslate all slated pitches on 50-70 year cycle, as failure progresses. Probably carry out as a phased programme, wing by wing, over a 5-10 year period.
- SF:** Replace or overhaul associated lead or stainless steel valley gutters, and flashings.
- Every 70-100 years*
- SF:** Replace lead flat roofs to towers, centre-south wing, balconies and bay windows.

ENDNOTES

Chapter 1

- 1 J S Kerr. *The Conservation Plan*. passim.

Chapter 2

- 1 Nigel Lewis Richard Aitken P/L. Caloola Centre, Sunbury. Conservation Analysis. Prepared for the Urban Land Authority. Melbourne, 1992.
Aradale Psychiatric Hospital. HBC File 600000K, Item RCA316, 6 July 1994.
Allom Lovell and Associates. Mayday Hills Hospital, Beechworth. Conservation Analysis. August 1994.

Chapter 3

- 1 M Lewis and Best Overend and Partners. Kew Lunatic Asylum Conservation Analysis. pp. 114-5.
- 2 H Mitchell. Willsmere Appeal Proceedings Landscape Report. [June 1993]. pp. 3-4.

APPENDIX A BURRA CHARTER

APPENDIX A THE BURRA CHARTER

The Australia ICOMOS

GUIDELINES FOR THE CONSERVATION OF PLACES OF CULTURAL SIGNIFICANCE

Known as

THE BURRA CHARTER

Preamble

Having regard to the International Charter for the Conservation and Restoration of Monuments and Sites (Venice 1966), and the Resolutions of the 5th General Assembly of ICOMOS (Moscow 1978), the following Charter has been adopted by Australia ICOMOS.

Definitions

ARTICLE 1. For the purposes of this Charter:

1.1 *Place* means site, area, building or other work, group of buildings or other works together with pertinent contents and surroundings.

1.2 *Cultural significance* means aesthetic, historic, scientific or social value for past, present or future generations.

1.3 *Fabric* means all the physical material of the *place*.

1.4 *Conservation* means all the processes of looking after a *place* so as to retain its *cultural significance*. It includes *maintenance* and may, according to circumstance include *preservation*, *restoration*, *reconstruction* and *adaptation* and will be commonly a combination of more than one of these.

1.5 *Maintenance* means the continuous protective care of the *fabric*, contents and setting of a *place*, and is to be distinguished from repair. Repair involves *restoration* or *reconstruction* and it should be treated accordingly.

1.6 *Preservation* means maintaining the *fabric* of a *place* in its existing state and retarding deterioration.

1.7 *Restoration* means returning the EXISTING *fabric* of a *place* to a known earlier state by removing accretions or by reassembling existing components without the introduction of new material.

1.8 *Reconstruction* means returning a *place* as nearly as possible to a known earlier state and is distinguished by the introduction of materials (new or old) into the *fabric*. This is not to be confused with either re-creation or conjectural reconstruction which are outside the scope of this Charter.

1.9 *Adaptation* means modifying a *place* to suit proposed compatible uses.

1.10 *Compatible use* means a use which involves no change to the cultural significance fabric, changes which are substantially reversible, or changes which require a minimal impact.

Conservation Principles

ARTICLE 2

The aim of *conservation* is to ~~retain~~ or recover the *cultural significance* of a *place* and must include provision for its ~~security~~, its *maintenance* and its future.

ARTICLE 3

Conservation is based on a *respect* for the existing *fabric* and should involve the least possible physical intervention. It should not distort the evidence provided by the *fabric*.

ARTICLE 4

Conservation should make use of all the disciplines which can contribute to the study and safeguarding of a *place*. Techniques employed should be traditional but in some circumstances they may be modern ones for which a firm scientific basis exists and which have been supported by a body of experience.

ARTICLE 5

Conservation of a *place* should take into consideration all aspects of its *cultural significance* without unwarranted emphasis on any one at the expense of others.

ARTICLE 6

The conservation policy appropriate to a *place* must first be determined by an understanding of its *cultural significance* and its physical condition.

ARTICLE 7

The conservation policy will determine which uses are compatible.

ARTICLE 8

Conservation requires the maintenance of an appropriate visual setting, eg. form, scale, colour, texture and materials. No new construction, demolition or modification which would adversely affect the settings should be allowed. Environmental intrusions which adversely affect appreciation or enjoyment of the *place* should be excluded.

ARTICLE 9

A building or work should remain in its historic location. The moving of all or part of a building or work is unacceptable unless this is the sole means of ensuring its survival.

ARTICLE 10

The removal of contents which form part of the *cultural significance* of the place is unacceptable unless it is the sole means of ensuring their security and *preservation*. Such contents must be returned should changed circumstances make this practicable.

Conservation Processes

Preservation

ARTICLE 11

Preservation is appropriate where the existing state of the *fabric* itself constitutes evidence of specific *cultural significance*, or where insufficient evidence is available to allow other conservation processes to be carried out.

ARTICLE 12

Preservation is limited to the protection, *maintenance* and where necessary, the stabilisation of the existing *fabric* but without the distortion of its *cultural significance*.

Restoration

ARTICLE 13

Restoration is appropriate only if there is sufficient evidence of an earlier state of the *fabric* and only if returning the *fabric* to that state recovers the *cultural significance* of the *place*.

ARTICLE 14

Restoration should reveal anew, culturally significant aspects of the *place*. It is based on respect for all the physical, documentary and other evidence and stops at the point where conjecture begins.

ARTICLE 15

Restoration is limited to the reassembling of displaced components or removal of accretions in accordance with Article 16.

ARTICLE 16

The contributions of all periods to the *place* must be respected. If a *place* includes the *fabric* of different periods, revealing the *fabric* of one period at the expense of another can only be justified when what is removed is of slight *cultural significance* and the *fabric* which is to be revealed is of much greater *cultural significance*.

Reconstruction

ARTICLE 17

Reconstruction is appropriate where a *place* is incomplete through damage or alteration and where it is necessary for its survival, or where it recovers the *cultural significance* of the *place* as a whole.

ARTICLE 18

Reconstruction is limited to the completion of a depleted entity and should not constitute the majority of the *fabric* of a *place*.

ARTICLE 19

Reconstruction is limited to the reproduction of *fabric* the arch testodical and/or documentary evidence. It should be identifiable on close inspection as being new work.

Adaptation

ARTICLE 20

Adaptation is acceptable where the *conservation* of the *place* cannot otherwise be achieved, and where the *adaptation* does not substantially detract from its *cultural significance*.

ARTICLE 21

Adaptation must be limited to that which is essential to a use for the *place* determined in accordance with Articles 6 and 7.

ARTICLE 22

Fabric of *cultural significance* (unavoidably removed in the process of *adaptation*) must be kept safely to enable its future reinstatement.

Conservation Practice

ARTICLE 23

Work on a *place* must be preceded by professionally prepared studies of the physical, documentary and other evidence, and the existing *fabric* recorded before any disturbance of the *place*.

ARTICLE 24

Study of a *place* by any disturbance of the *fabric* or by archaeological excavation should be undertaken where necessary to provide data essential for decisions on the *conservation* of the *place* and/or to secure evidence about to be lost or made inaccessible through *necessary conservation* or other unavoidable action. Investigation of a *place* for any other reason which requires *physical disturbance* and which adds substantially to a scientific body of knowledge may be permitted, provided that it is consistent with the conservation policy for the *place*.

ARTICLE 25

A written statement of conservation policy must be professionally prepared setting out the *cultural significance*, physical condition and proposed *conservation* process together with justification and supporting evidence, including photographs, drawings and all appropriate samples.

ARTICLE 26

The organisation and individuals responsible for policy decisions must be named and specific responsibility taken for each such decision.

ARTICLE 27

Appropriate professional direction and supervision must be maintained at all stages of the work and a log kept of new evidence and additional decisions recorded as in Article 25 above.

ARTICLE 28

The records required by Articles 23, 25, 26 and 27 should be placed in a permanent archive and made publicly available.

ARTICLE 29

The items referred to in Article 10 and Article 22 should be professionally catalogued and protected.

EXPLANATORY NOTES

Article 1 Place includes structures, ruins, archaeological sites and areas.

Article 1.5 The distinctions referred to in Article 1.5, for example in relation to roof gutters, are:

Maintenance - regular inspection and cleaning of eaves spoutings.

Repair involving restoration - returning of dislodged gutters to their place

Repair involving reconstruction - replacing decayed gutters.

Article 2 Conservation should not be undertaken unless adequate resources are available to ensure that the fabric is not left in a vulnerable state and that the cultural significance of the place is not impaired. However, it must be emphasised that the best conservation often involves the least work and can be inexpensive.

Article 3 The traces of additions, alterations and earlier treatments on the fabric of a place are the best evidence of its history and uses.

Conservation action should tend to assist rather than to impede their interpretation.

Article 8 New construction work, including infill and additions, may be acceptable provided:
It does not reduce or obscure the cultural significance of the place.
It is in keeping with Article 8.

Article 9 Some structures were designed to be readily removable or already have a history of previous moves, eg. prefabricated dwellings and poppethcads. Provided such a structure does not have a strong association with its present site its removal may be considered.
If any structure is moved it should be moved to an appropriate setting and given an appropriate use.
Such action should not be to the detriment of any place of cultural significance.

Article 11 Preservation protects fabric without obscuring the evidence of its construction and use. The process should always be applied:
Where the evidence of the fabric is of such significance that it must not be altered. This is an unusual case and likely to be appropriate for archaeological remains of national importance.
Where insufficient investigation has been carried out to permit conservation policy decisions to be taken in accord with Articles 23 to 25.

New construction may be carried out in association with preservation when its purpose is the physical protection of the fabric and when it is consistent with Article 8.

Article 12 Stabilisation is a process which helps keep fabric intact and in a fixed position. When carried out as a part of preservation work it does not introduce new materials into the fabric. However, when necessary for the survival of the fabric stabilisation may be effected as part of a reconstruction process and new materials introduced. For example, grouting or the insertion of a reinforced rod in a masonry wall.

Article 13 See explanatory Note for Article 2.

APPENDIX B HISTORIC BUILDINGS COUNCIL STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

REPORT TO MINISTER

Former Willsmere Hospital
Princess Street, Kew

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

1. Willsmere, previously known as the "Kew Lunatic Asylum", was opened in 1872 and is possibly one of the largest and most intact nineteenth century lunatic asylums in the world.
2. The asylum complex is a prominent example of the E-plan barracks type lunatic asylums based on the model 1850s asylum in Colney Hatch, England.
3. Designed by architect GW Vivian and Frederick Kawerau of the Victorian Public Works Department, it represents the shift to grander styles of institutional structures. Whilst the plan and detail relate to sister asylums at Ararat and Beechworth, the Kew asylum is twice the size with the front buildings and towers more distinctive architecturally.
4. The complex with the towers and mansard roofs, is one of the most prominent landmarks in Melbourne.
5. The buildings continue to demonstrate the original scale and layout of the institution and reflect practices in the care of mental health patients in Victoria.
6. The complex is also of technical and mercantile significance in the use of ship's tanks to store water in the asylum tower, no other known examples of their survival in such quantities existing.
7. The Fever Tents, constructed in response to a major Typhoid Epidemic from 1907, were introduced at a time when the Government had considered Typhoid to be under control in Victoria.
8. The asylum represents Victoria's institutional flagship in mental health over a long period, and demonstrates the desire to impart respectability to mental health care.

(10/50/11/100/27)



NOTE NOTED

BY THE GOVERNOR IN COUNCIL

12 FEB 1991

ACTING *M. May*
CLERK OF THE COUNCIL

**APPENDIX C 1988 CONSERVATION ANALYSIS STATEMENT OF
SIGNIFICANCE**

STATEMENTS OF SIGNIFICANCE

Rationale

The Kew Lunatic Asylum is a very large building complex, and it contains within it some elements that would be significant in their own right even if the rest were to disappear, whereas others, which now contribute to the significance of the whole, do not in their own right compare with their equivalents at Ararat and Beechworth. It is therefore necessary, as the basis for any future policy decision on the property, to assess not only the whole complex but also those elements which might in their own right be regarded as significant.

The asylum

The Kew Lunatic Asylum may be one of the largest and most intact nineteenth century lunatic asylums in the world, and is certainly one of the most prominent of the E-plan barracks type in the tradition of Colney Hatch. It has been a great white elephant in the administration of mental health in Victoria, physically obsolescent from the first, and retardataire in philosophy and practice for much of its life. Its institutional significance lies in its scale, as the flagship of the Victorian system, rather than in its integrity as an illustration of mental care, though a number of areas survive in something approaching their original form, if not necessarily their original condition. It is the external fabric of the

building which is potentially most important, together with some few other details, and specifically:

- the architecturally pretentious administration block which presented the public face of the institution, and which is in the local context an atypical design reflecting contemporary German influence;
- the towers and mansard roofs, which are seen from a distance and constitute one of Melbourne's great urban landmarks;
- the balance of the building envelope, to the extent that it continues to demonstrate the original scale and layout of the institution;
- the surviving lodge of 1856-7;
- aspects which are of particular technical interest, notably the plate iron water tanks;
- subsidiary buildings, notably the fever tents;
- what remains of the landscaping, including the early planting, the ha-has, walls, fences, airing courts, privies and sunshades, and a number of trees planted in the 1880s.

Original lodge

The surviving lodge of 1856-7 is the only remnant of the asylum as first conceived for the Kew site, and is the oldest surviving building constructed for mental health purposes in Victoria. Although it has suffered alterations and its exterior appearance has been altered by painting, it can still be recognised as a brick building with cement dressings in a manner inspired by Charles Parker's Villa Rustica. It remains as a rare surviving work of the architect G W Vivian, as a distinctive building within the oeuvre of the Public Works Department of

Victoria, and as an exceptional exemplar of the style in Victoria.

Ship's tanks

The use of ship's tanks to store water in the asylum tower is of technical and mercantile historical significance, for although the recycling of tanks in this way was a common practice, there is no other known example of their survival in such quantities or where they are so well documented.

Fever tents

The antecedents of the tents erected in 1908 remain somewhat mysterious, and these must be regarded as being of interest rather than significance. This is particularly so as at least two other examples are known to exist (at Ararat).

Grounds

The airing courts of the asylum, privies, sunshades and walls evoke the nature of asylum life more tellingly today than the interiors of the building, yet this is more vividly and significantly expressed at Ararat where, even in the absence of the privies, the giant wall and intact fosse of the ha-ha contribute to a more complete ensemble.

Exterior landscape

The surviving nineteenth century trees in front of the asylum are not so numerous, impressive, or varied in species, nor do they cover so great an area as at Beechworth. This landscape (which technically falls largely outside the boundary of this study), although created largely by the labour of inmates, should in fact be considered in the context of public and semi-public gardens generally, rather than of asylums in particular. In that context it is not exceptionally fine, intact, or of substantial significance.

APPENDIX D HISTORIC BUILDINGS COUNCIL PERMIT

HISTORIC BUILDINGS ACT 1981

PERMIT

HISTORIC BUILDINGS COUNCIL



a promise to the future

PERMIT NO: 1816

OWNER/S: Central Equity
ADDRESS: c/- Mr J Bourke
Level 9, 365 Queen Street
Melbourne

HISTORIC BUILDINGS REGISTER NO: 861 FILE NO: 6049989
NAME OF BUILDING (IF ANY): Former Willsmere Hospital
LOCATION: Princess Street
Kew

Pursuant to Section 26 of the Historic Buildings Act 1981 and in respect to the above-mentioned building, the Historic Buildings Council hereby grants the owner of the building a PERMIT, subject to any conditions as prescribed hereunder to carry out the following: Refer attached Schedule of Documentation.

CONDITIONS:

- Construction of new works is such that prior consideration has been given in design to any prospect of damage resulting to the designated building and the works be carried out in such a manner so as to prevent damage to the designated building.
- This permit is valid for two years from the date of issue.
- That this Council be informed when any works carried out within the terms of this permit have been completed.
- Should it become apparent after the issue of this permit, during further inspection, or the carrying out of works or otherwise, that original or important previously hidden or inaccessible details of the building's structure, fenestration, finishes, mouldings, fittings or fixtures, are revealed then any construction works authorised by this permit which may affect such items shall immediately cease. Written notification thereof shall be given to the Director of the Council and such works which may affect such items shall not recommence for such reasonable period as will enable the Council or its staff to inspect and record the same and discussion to take place with a view to retaining or preserving the same, or the issue of a modified permit.

OTHER CONDITIONS:

Refer attached Schedule of Conditions.

TAKE NOTICE THAT ANY PERSON WHO FAILS TO COMPLY WITH A PERMIT OR A CONDITION OF A PERMIT IS GUILTY OF AN OFFENCE AND LIABLE TO A PENALTY OF UP TO 1,500 PENALTY UNITS OR 2 YEARS IMPRISONMENT.

THE ATTENTION OF THE APPLICANT IS DRAWN TO THE NEED TO OBTAIN ALL OTHER RELEVANT PERMITS PRIOR TO THE COMMENCEMENT OF WORKS.

Copies to:

- * Ms W Spar-Keeble, Conservation Consultant to Central Equity Ltd, Level 9/365 Queen Street, Melbourne
- * Attn: Mr B Coven, Kew City Council

HISTORIC BUILDINGS COUNCIL
GPO BOX 2240T MELBOURNE 3001

Signed Director

Date 2/1/93

SCHEDULE A
TO ACCOMPANY PERMIT NO. 1816

Conditions

1. The Permits Committee A of the Historic Buildings Council resolved to grant a permit for approval in principle only for the residential redevelopment of the registered former Wiltsmere Hospital buildings and land as generally documented in three A3 volumes titled Central Equity Wiltsmere Redevelopment Proposal, Submission to the Historic Buildings Council, March 1993 prepared by Willys Span Keeble, Conservation Consultant plus Addendum No. 1, 17 March 1993 and Addendum No. 2, 29 March 1993 and herein after referred to as the Central Equity Submission and Addenda No's. 1 and 2, 1993, subject to such conditions as are contained in this permit.
2. Resolution of inaccuracies and/or discrepancies in the Central Equity Submission and Addenda No.'s 1 & 2, 1993 will be subject to the approval of the Director, Historic Buildings Council.
3. Except as agreed in Condition 10 of this permit there will be no demolition or building works until receipt and approval of the Conservation Policy, Management and Maintenance Plan required as a condition of this permit.

Conservation Policy, Management & Maintenance Plan

4. A Conservation Policy, Management and Maintenance Plan is to be prepared in accordance with the ICOMOS Burra Charter to address the whole complex and separately address individual buildings, structures, works and historic landscape components. A brief for the above Plan is to be submitted for the approval of the Director, Historic Buildings Council.
5. The Conservation Policy, Management and Maintenance Plan is to be prepared by an experienced conservation architect approved by the Director, Historic Buildings Council, drawing on the skills of other relevant consultants as necessary.
6. The Conservation Policy, Management and Maintenance Plan is to develop an order of priorities for works and staged program for building works to form the basis for estimates of future works requirements and assistance in establishing future annual and cyclical maintenance costs.
7. The Conservation, Policy, Management and Maintenance Plan is to ensure that all repair, restoration and reconstruction works are to be carried out in accordance with the ICOMOS Burra Charter principles to a high standard. This may involve some amendments to the works program put forward in the Central Equity Submission and Addenda No's. 1 and 2, 1993.
8. The Conservation Policy Management and Maintenance Plan is to be completed within 3 months of the issue of this permit unless otherwise approved by the Director, Historic Buildings Council.

9. The Conservation Policy, Management and Maintenance Plan is to be submitted for the approval of the Director, Historic Buildings Council
10. Subject to relevant conditions of this permit, approval is given for alterations associated with the sales and display period (units and courtyard) as outlined in the preface of the Central Equity Submission and Addendum 2, Sketch Plan DW01 and the reconstruction of sandstone orbs on the brick wall subject to further details of all work and associated land-scaping being submitted for the approval of the Director, Historic Buildings Council
11. The landscape report included in Central Equity Submission, Addendum No. 1, 17 March 1993, is not approved at this stage. A detailed landscape Development Plan is to be prepared as part of the required Conservation Policy, Management and Maintenance Plan referred to in condition of this permit.
12. Relocation of the eastern sunshade is not approved until it can be demonstrated that this can be done in a satisfactory manner without adverse affect on the structure
13. The proposed new northern brick wall is to be reinstated where possible to original alignment, height and length unless approved otherwise by the Director, Historic Buildings Council
14. The wall associated with the privy in the west front garden is to be reconstructed to original detail, alignment height and length unless approved otherwise by the Director, Historic Buildings Council

Car parking

15. Car-parking comprising no more than 36 car-parking spaces in the forecourt and 10 tandem car-parking spaces along the eastern boundary in accordance with Plan FOD2, 15/4/93 prepared by Span Group, Architects, is approved subject to details of land-scaping and reinstated hooped-iron fencing around the forecourt being submitted to the Director HBC for approval.
16. Land-scaping is to ensure that the car-parking is properly screened from surrounding public areas and is to be to the approval of the Director, HBC.
17. Car "barns" are to be totally concealed by the perimeter walls. Where it is difficult to conceal certain "barns" behind the walls, the applicant is to submit details of proposed screen planting to the Director, Historic Buildings Council, for approval prior to the erection of these same car "barns"

The works program

18. The final works program is to be in accordance with the approved Conservation Policy, Management and Maintenance Plan
19. Draft design details for all components of the works program including service requirements (mechanical, electrical, fire services, hydraulic, gas) proposed external treatment and reconstruction work such as the footpaths are to be submitted for comment by the Director, Historic Buildings Council prior to final working drawings being commenced, either in previously agreed staging components or as a total package

20. Full contract documents amended as required for the works program are then to be submitted for the approval of the Director, Historic Buildings Council prior to tenders being let
21. All work is to be inspected regularly by an experienced Conservation Architect approved by the Director, Historic Buildings Council
22. New openings to the extent shown on the architectural drawings attached to Addendum 2 are approved in principle. Associated demolition and repair work are subject to the conditions of the permit. Details of new/altered joinery in window openings and door openings are to be submitted for the approval of the Director, Historic Buildings Council
23. External colour schemes for all structures on the site including the former asylum, town houses, car ports, etc are to be submitted for approval of the Director, Historic Buildings Council
24. The privies and "umbrella" sunshades will be preserved, repaired and restored as determined in the approved Conservation Policy Management and Maintenance Plan. Details are to be submitted for the approval of the Director, Historic Buildings Council

Demolition works

25. No demolition works specified in the Central Equity Submission, 1993 and Addenda No's. 1 and 2, 1993 and approved by the Permits Committee shall be carried out for either registered structures or unregistered structures which are physically attached to registered structures until all necessary permits have been obtained and contracts sighted by the Director, Historic Buildings Council
26. Demolition of unregistered structures which are not physically attached to registered structures to be carried out as described in the Central Equity Submission, 1993 and Addenda No's. 1 and 2. Central Equity is to advise the Director, Historic Buildings Council of their proposed demolition program for these buildings.
27. Physical barriers and cyclone chain mesh fences must be installed to protect all registered structures and landscape items (including wall and privies)
28. Details of these protective measures including details of the demolition program, site access arrangements for vehicles and workers and a site plan showing location and type of protective measures must be submitted for the approval of the Director, Historic Buildings Council prior to the commencement of work
29. There is to be no large earth-moving machinery within 3 metres of a registered structure (such as building, fence, garden structure) unless otherwise approved by the Director, Historic Buildings Council
30. Where demolition work will physically affect a registered structure, details showing the proposed repair of registered structure (for example; new openings in brick fences) must be submitted and approved by the Director, Historic Buildings Council (or the Permits Committee if the Director so requires) prior to the commencement of work

Evidence of financial commitment

31. Central Equity must show that it is allocating sufficient funds for the repair/restoration/reconstruction components of the works program agreed as part of the Conservation Policy Management & Maintenance Plan

The revised schedule of these works and cost estimates is to be submitted for approval of the Director, Historic Buildings Council

32. No buildings works or demolition is to occur until the applicant has entered into an agreement with the Historic Buildings Council to lodge a Bank Guarantee for \$250,000.00 and that such guarantee will be released upon receipt and approval of the Conservation Policy, Management and Maintenance Plan by the Director, Historic Buildings Council

33. Central Equity is to take out property insurance to enable replacement of registered items which may be damaged during the works program or to complete the restoration component of the works program if the project does not proceed to completion. Details of the insurance cover are to be approved by the Director, Historic Buildings Council and a copy of the policy lodged with the Director, Historic Buildings Council

Covenants/Strata Titles

34. Central Equity is to submit final copies of the proposed covenants to be attached to titles/leases (as described in principle Submission 7.6 and Addendum 1 A 2.0) in proper legal terms for approval of the Permits Committee

In addition to the points covered in the Central Equity Submission and Addenda No.'s 1 & 2 1993 the covenant should clearly indicate that the Historic Buildings Council will not generally support permit applications from the Body Corporate for the location of service ducts, aerials, reception dishes and other extraneous items to be located on the external envelope of the buildings (both new and existing buildings)

35. The proposed permit exemptions are approved in principle. The detailed application is to be submitted for the approval of the Historic Buildings Council pursuant to Section 26(8) of the Historic Buildings Act 1981

Body Corporate Rules

36. Central Equity is to submit a copy of the proposed Body Corporate Rules incorporating recommendations which may arise from the approved Conservation Policy, Management and Maintenance Plan in proper legal terms for the approval of the Director, Historic Buildings Council

Interpretation Policy and Program

37. The interpretation policy and program is agreed to in principle subject to its being reviewed following approval of the Conservation Policy Management and Maintenance Plan. The reviewed interpretation Policy and Plan is to be submitted for the approval of the Director, Historic Buildings Council

38. The work program associated with the interpretive program is to be carried out prior to certificates of occupancy being issued

Photographic record

39. That prior to any demolition work a permanent black and white photographic record of the complex, including all designated buildings, be made on archival paper and the negatives and proof sheets be lodged with the Director, Historic Buildings Council, the State Library Picture Collection and the proposed Interpretation Centre at Willsmere. Such record is to be prepared in accordance with a brief to be approved by the Director, Historic Buildings Council prior to undertaking the record.

**APPENDIX E BODY CORPORATE RULES RE HISTORIC
BUILDINGS COUNCIL**

BODY CORPORATE PLAN NO.

SCHEDULE 3

RULES - HISTORIC BUILDINGS COUNCIL

1. Historic Buildings Council Permit

These following rules have been passed by the Body Corporate in order to comply with permit no. 1816 issued by the Historic Building Council ("the HBC") with respect to the land comprised in the Plan of Subdivision and to also ensure the preservation and maintenance of the common property and common areas of the historical Willamere site being the whole of the land comprised in the Plan of Subdivision.

1.1 Rules cannot be altered

This rule and all of the rules in this Schedule 3 shall not be able or capable of being varied or amended in anyway whatsoever by the Body Corporate or the committee save and except where the HBC has consented in writing to any such variation or amendment.

2. Covenant with HCB

The Body Corporate does by this rule covenant with and undertaken to the HBC that it will NOT permit, consent to or allow any member, except as provided or permitted by the said permit no. 1816 issued by the HBC to:-

- (a) Make any alteration, additions, change or variation structural or otherwise to the exterior of any buildings, structure, patio, covered walkways, paths or other improvements situated within the Plan of Subdivision land and that such prohibition shall without limiting the generality of the foregoing extend to repainting all or any part of the exterior, adding window boxes, aerials, antennae, reception dishes, chimneys, flues, pipes, airconditioning equipment, roof lights, signs, lights, blinds, awnings, climbing plants, barriers, attachments to window glass and doing any work, act or thing of any nature or description which requires the penetration of, attachment to or removal of any part of the walls or roof of any building, structure or improvements and
- (b) Make any alteration, change or variation of any nature whatsoever structural or otherwise to the interior of any part of any building, structure or improvements situated on or within the Plan of Subdivision, including any cuboid steel plate tanks located within any part of the Plan of Subdivision.
- (c) Make any alterations, changes or variation of any nature or description to any part of the gardens comprised within the Plan of Subdivision including without limiting the generality of the foregoing, the removal of any existing plants or vegetation or parts thereof and the planting of any new plants;

- (d) Store or place within the patio areas, or covered walkways any goods or things save for a modest sized outdoor furniture setting and a modest number of pot plants, so that they shall not be unsightly or cluttered in appearance.

UNLESS the HBC's prior written consent thereto has been obtained.

2.1 Members covenant with Body Corporate

The members hereby covenant with and undertake to the Body Corporate that they will NOT do any of the acts and things prohibited by rule 2.1 above unless they have obtained the Body Corporate's, the Committee's or the HBC's written approval and consent thereto.

3. To comply with HBC permit

The Body Corporate and all members shall at all times comply with the terms and conditions of the HBC permit no. 1816 a copy of which has been provided to each member and which is permanently available for inspection from the Body Corporate, the Committee or from the Caretaker.

4. Conservation Policy Management Plan

The Body Corporate and the members shall do all such acts and things and/or refrain from doing any acts or things that may be required to be done or refrained from being done in order to implement and/or carry out the Conservation Policy Management and Maintenance Plan ("the Conservation Plan") which has been prepared and which will be in existence at the date of the passing of these rules with respect to the whole of the Willsmere site and in so far as it effects any part of the common property or common areas.

4.1 Conservation Architect

The Body Corporate shall immediately commission an expert being a Conservation Architect ("the Architect") who shall be approved by the Director of the HBC, to advise on the Conservation Plan and to assist in its implementation.

4.2 Implementing Conservation Plan

The Architect shall be required by the Body Corporate to devise the method and manner of implementing the Conservation Plan, the first stage of which shall be implemented and carried out within six months.

4.3 HBC and Conservation Plan

The Body Corporate shall at all times work with and co-operate with the HBC in the implementation and carrying out of the Conservation Plan and shall always seek the HBC's prior approval to any changes or variations to the Conservation Plan.

4.4 Yearly Conservation Plans

Prior to the end of each calendar year from the date of the initial Conservation Plan, the Architect shall be requested by the Body Corporate to update the Conservation Plan and to advise on what preservation and/or maintenance works are required or need to be carried out on the common areas for the following twelve months and such updated plan shall cover, all designated structures on the HBC register and all land and soft landscape items ("the yearly CP plan").

4.5 Fund for Conservation Plan

The Body Corporate shall set aside a sum of not less than \$7,000.00 out of its funds to meet the costs of employing the Architect to prepare the yearly CP plan and to carry out whatever inspections may need to be done and employ such other experts as the Architect may decide need to be engaged in order to prepare the yearly CP plan.

4.6 Fund CPI adjusted

The aforesaid sum of \$7,000.00 shall be adjusted annually in accordance with the percentage movement in the Consumer Price Index for all groups Melbourne and the Body Corporate shall if it deems appropriate request the HBC to agree to a reduction in the sum.

4.7 Excess Funds

If the whole of the said sum of \$7,000.00 is not required or used for the preparation of the yearly CP plan, then any excess shall be applied by the Body Corporate towards the costs and expenses of implementing any recommendations under the yearly PC plan or plans.

5. Library and Archive Centre

The common area previously known as Ward A-A which is located on the first floor of the main building and comprises nine bedrooms, associated corridor/Day Room and Dining Area/Day Room shall be used as a Library and Archive Centre ("Library Archive Centre") and shall be preserved intact in perpetuity as representing an example of the original Asylum layout and lifestyle and shall be used as a repository for all Willsmere documents available in a photocopied and photographed form and as a library and study centre for all members.

5.1 No interference with Centre

No member shall alter, change or interfere with the Library Archive Centre.

5.2 Due care of Centre

All members shall when enjoying their access to the Library Archive Centre and any documents stored there ensure that their use and access does not damage, interfere with or destroy any part of the Library Archive Centre area or the documents stored therein and shall be consistent with normal library conduct.

5.3 Nothing to be removed

The documents stored within the Library Archive Centre belong to the Body Corporate and no member shall remove any documents therefrom.

5.4 Access to Library Archive Centre

The Body Corporate shall make available for public viewing and examination the Library Archive Centre and the archival documents data and material artefacts located therein provided that such viewing and examination is:

- (a) By appointment with the Body Corporate.
- (b) Supervised by a duly qualified person whose services shall be paid for and provided by the persons seeking such view and examination.
- (c) Subject to whatever conditions the Body Corporate may determine to ensure that it is protected from any liability for any loss or injury that may occur from such view or examination.

5.5 Tours

In the event that the HBC request or require guided tours of the Willsmere grounds to be provided to the public, provided however that in no case shall the HBC be entitled to require more than two such guided tours a year, then:-

- (a) If the HBC require the Body Corporate to organise and bear the costs of such tours, then the Body Corporate shall be entitled to charge such fee as it shall deem fair and reasonable to each member of the public attending such tour.
- (b) The Body Corporate shall be entitled to conduct and arrange for more than two guided tours per annum on such terms as it shall deem appropriate.
- (c) The tours shall only be of the common areas and only those parts of common areas as are agreed to be opened for viewing, between the Body Corporate and the HBC but shall always include:-
 - (i) The Library Archive Centre area.
 - (ii) The interior bluestone "dungeons" under the north end of the former Ward FF.
 - (iii) The interior of the most intact Privy.
 - (iv) The interior of the Fever Tents.
- (d) The Body Corporate shall be entitled to employ the services of such tour operators or other persons it shall deem necessary in order to assist with the conducting of the tours.

5.6 No obstruction of Tours

All members shall not in anyway obstruct or interfere with the tours, the public's access to the Library Archive Centre and shall always co-operate with the Body Corporate in the conducting of any tours.

6. Sinking Fund

That in order to provide a source of funds to carry out and execute any recommendations under the Conservation Plan and including the works program of cyclical maintenance and replacement, a sinking fund shall and is hereby established ("the sinking fund").

6.1 Contributions to Sinking Fund

Each member shall pay within 30 days of being requested to do so by the Body Corporate an initial contribution of \$300.00 per annum to the sinking fund.

6.2 Review of Fees

The members contributions to the sinking fund shall be reviewed at such times as the Body Corporate shall determine.

6.3 Application of fee

All or any part of the sinking fund shall be able to be used and applied for whatever purposes the Body Corporate shall determine.

6.4 No refund

No member shall be entitled to a refund of any monies paid into the sinking fund.

7. Inconsistencies

Where any of the rules in this Schedule shall be inconsistent with any other rules passed by the Body Corporate then, these rules shall override and supersede any other rules.

**APPENDIX F PROPOSAL FOR THE WILLSMERE MUSEUM/
ARCHIVES (RICHARD GILLESPIE AND LISA
CIANCI, 1995)**

Proposal for the
WILLSMERE
Museum/Archives

Prepared by Richard Gillespie and Lisa Cianci
Australian Science Archives Project,

25 October, 1995



Proposal for the Willsmere Museum/Archives

Prepared by Richard Gillespie and Lisa Clancy of the Australian Science Archives Project, 25 October, 1995 for Central Equity Ltd and the Historic Buildings Council.

Broad Objectives of this Proposal

1. Identification of the scope of a Project that will establish a museum and archives of the Willsmere Hospital and Kew Mental Asylum in the Restored Ward A
2. Estimation of the approximate costs of the different elements of the proposed project.
3. Identification of the issues that the Willsmere Body Corporate may need to deal with in the future in relation to the museum and archives.

This proposal stems from an initial contact made with Willys Span-Keeble, Conservation Architect, and a visit to the Willsmere - Central Equity Ltd. offices on 25/9/1995 to inspect the site and artefacts that will make up the Museum display and Archives.

Expected outcomes for the Project

- ◊ Establishment of an interpretive display that is easy to maintain and that allows for future additions and changes.
- ◊ Development of contextual information that gives meaning to the display area, artefacts and records held therein.
- ◊ A pamphlet which provides information about the Willsmere site and points of interest.
- ◊ A hardcopy finding aid to the archival records in the Collection.

Proposal

Overview

It is proposed that the presentation of the architectural heritage and social history of the Kew Mental Asylum and Willsmere Hospital be achieved through a variety of complementary interpretive techniques. Each of these forms of interpretation will present selected aspects of the history of the site, in a form that will reach a diverse range of people.

The aim has been to design a cost-effective system that will serve the immediate needs for interpretation of the site, while providing a useful long-term framework for future developments.

The elements of the proposal include:

- **Pamphlet:** a map and guide to the buildings and grounds, presenting a history of the architecture and various uses of the buildings and courts. This would be available for distribution on open days and guided tours, and for everyday use by residents and visitors.
- **Exhibition:** a display in the main room of the former Female Paying Patients' Ward, exploring the daily rhythms of the hospital and the lives of the patients and staff. This would be open on public open days, accessible to residents and their guests, and accessible to visitors by appointment.
- **Library:** a photographic display of the history of the hospital, buildings and site, located in the former Day Room of the Female Patients' Paying Ward. This provides a low-key presentation, to compliment the room's current use as a Library and meeting room for the Willsmere Body Corporate.

- **Archive and Resource Collection:** a collection of plans, photographs, records and relevant publications and reports pertaining to the Kew Mental Asylum and Willsmere Hospital. This will be housed in cabinets in a bedroom off the gallery of the Female Paying Patients' Ward, and available to residents and interested visitors and researchers by appointment.

1 PAMPHLET

A brief guide to the buildings, grounds and history of the hospital. This would be available for distribution on open days and for everyday use by residents and visitors. The pamphlet would contain a map of the grounds, possibly relevant pictures (simple line drawings would be preferable) and text on specific sites and overall building.

It is proposed that the pamphlet be kept fairly simple, to minimise the ongoing costs of reproduction by the Body Corporate.

- A4 Sheet, double sided, single colour
- ASAP would supply an initial print run of 2,000 copies and a master

2 EXHIBITION

It is proposed that a fairly simple but powerful interpretation of the history and daily life of the Kew Mental Asylum and Willsmere Hospital be mounted in the main room of the Female Paying Patients' Ward. The display would focus on the people who inhabited the buildings - patients, staff and visitors - and the daily rhythms of life in the hospital. The ward itself, with the gallery, day room and adjoining bedrooms, will be the main exhibit, and the design of the display is intended to respect these spaces.

2.1 Exhibition Design

Visitors entering the main room of the ward will be confronted by two of the wooden gates from the female paupers' airing court: this will help highlight the central importance of incarceration in the hospital (in the hospital itself, in airing courts, wards, and private rooms). Through these gates the visitors will be able to see images of patients and staff on three free-standing screens. It is hoped that we can find three photos of sufficient quality that close to life-size images of people can be reproduced. Objects and text panels will be on the reverse of the free-standing screens, so that visitors will discover the objects and explanatory text as they move fully into the ward.

The exhibition elements have been designed so that they have a visual impact while not detracting from the architectural impact of the long gallery and small rooms leading off it. The exhibition has also been designed so that the ward gallery can be readily cleared for temporary functions or for other purposes. The free-standing screens can be easily moved to one side or into one of the small rooms, while the gates could be swung back against the wall or, if necessary, lifted from their supporting brackets on the walls.

2.2 Themes

Each free-standing screen would have a specific theme, with associated artefacts and images. The final choice of themes will depend on the research, but at this stage it is proposed that they be:

Patients and staff

- overview of who was admitted and why, and how this changed historically.
- segregation of patients into different categories and wards by sex, paying patients, extent of illness.
- numbers of patients and staff, including overcrowding.

- the asylum as a community, with its own social life, farm, cricket ground, etc
- > artefacts: sewing machines, First World War memorial, workshop tools, shadow board?

Life in the ward

- the daily routines and rhythms of the hospital: mealtimes, cleaning, washing, recreation
- rules and regulations
- journalists' accounts of life at Kew, especially Vagabond!
- artefacts: wheelchair, copy of regulations, reproduction straightjacket?

Therapy and treatment

- Kew as the backwater of the Victorian mental hospital system
- changes in theories of mental illness and advances in therapy
- the role of the medical staff at the hospital
- artefacts: ECT machine

As far as possible different images will be selected from those already on display in the Library, depending on what is found during research.

2.3 Bedroom

One of the small bedrooms could be fitted out with original furniture. However, no furniture is currently held by the Museum and Archive and it may take some time to track down the right items. A budget for this display has therefore not been included in the budget for this project, although an effort will be made to locate suitable furniture, and supplementary funding will be sought if the search is successful.

3. LIBRARY

Library: visual survey of history

4. ARCHIVE & RESOURCE COLLECTION

The development of a Resource Collection consisting of plans, photographs, records and relevant publications and reports pertaining to the Kew Mental Asylum and Willsmere Hospital. This will require the acquisition of publications and reports, reproduction of photographs, plans, etc. The material needed for the Resource Collection would become apparent during the research for the Pamphlet and Exhibition.

It is proposed that some archival form of documentation of the records and artefacts of the Willsmere Museum and Archives be undertaken. There is an inventory of records and artefacts already in existence (compiled by Willys Span-Keeble and Holly Mitchell), and this could be used as the basis for further documentation using the ASAB Archival Data System. Particular attention will be paid to locating items that could be used in interpretation displays and for heritage conservation, including:

- copies of a selection of archival documents, including correspondence, admission records, building and repairs, supplies, official reports
- copies of any additional original architectural drawings located at the Public Records Office.
- tracking down of photographs at the Public Records Office, Mental Health Authority and other potential sources.

5. WATER TANKS

The water storage tanks currently stored in the gallery of the ward relate more to the architectural history of the building rather than the daily life of the Institution. It is therefore proposed that they be removed from the ward, and that two be placed on the stairway landing outside the Library, with an explanatory label. Reference to them would also be made on the pamphlet for the self-guided tour of the site.

6. COLLABORATION WITH MUSEUM OF VICTORIA

The Museum of Victoria holds a collection of material from Victorian psychiatric institutions, most of it collected by Charles Brothers of the Mental Hygiene Authority and housed for many years at Parkville. The museum will be displaying some of this material in its exhibitions at the new museum at Carlton Gardens. Only a few items in the collection come from the Kew Asylum, the majority coming from Beechworth Asylum. There is a published catalogue of the collection, a copy of which will be obtained for the Willsmere Archives.

There is potential in the longer term for the Museum of Victoria to mount a temporary exhibition in the Female Paying Patients' Ward, drawing on its collection. This could be done in association with a special event such as an international conference. At present, Museum resources are fully dedicated to the building of the new museum at Carlton Gardens.

The Museum of Victoria would be willing to assist the Willsmere Museum through the loan of material or access to material for the purposes of making display copies or reproductions. Loans of material would be dependent on the Willsmere Museum meeting the security and conservation requirements of the Museum of Victoria. As part of this project, details on loan conditions from the Museum of Victoria will be placed in the Willsmere Archives for future reference.

7. DISPLAY OF SMALL ARTEFACTS AND LOAN MATERIAL

There is potential to display small historic artefacts pertaining to the history of the hospital, either collected and held by the Museum or borrowed from private individuals or from the Museum of Victoria. This would require the establishment of a local history society and museum with clear policies and responsible officers.

Some additional expenditure would also be required in order to display original artefacts, including:

- Lockable display cases
- security system
- contract conservation services

8. ESTABLISHING A MUSEUM AND ARCHIVES POLICY

It is highly recommended that the Willsmere Body Corporate use this opportunity to develop a formal policy that covers:

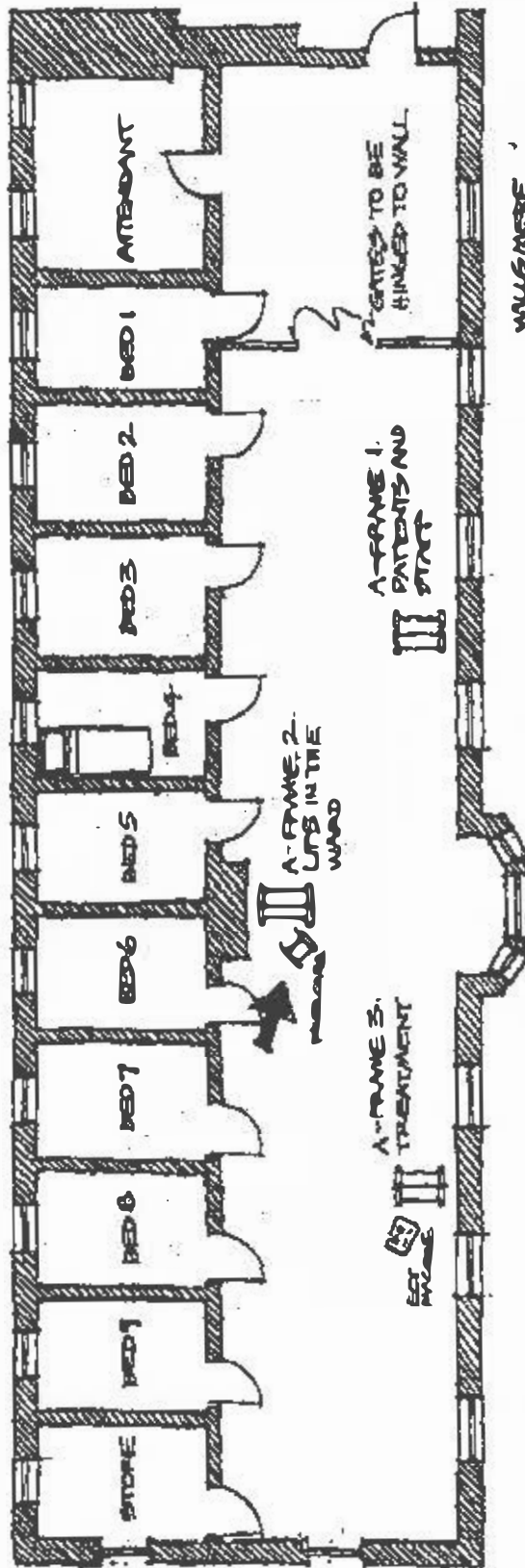
- who and how people will have access to the display and records;
- planning for development and growth in the long term;
- recurrent cost for the maintenance of the museum/archives and similar issues.

ASAP is able to assist in the development of such a policy although it is not covered by the scope of this budget.

See Budget for the Project, Page 7 for a breakdown of costs.

Budget for the Project

	Type	Amount	Justification
1.	Pamphlet Research	\$1,000	Research for text and photographs by ASAP Archivist/Historian - 40 hours @ \$25 p/h.
	Design	\$500	Designing of pamphlet using ASAP facilities - i.e. computers, desktop publishing software, etc
	Printing	\$100	Printing of pamphlets - 2,000 @ \$0.05 per pamphlet (B&W 1 A4 Page, Duplex)
2.	Exhibition Design	\$800	Design of layout and screens in the exhibition space.
	Installation	\$1,000	Installation of artefacts (gates) in the exhibition space, cleaning and preparation of artefacts for exhibition
	Free-Standing Screens	\$750	Production of A-Frame screens for the exhibition space - these will carry the photo murals and graphic panels providing the interpretation of the space and artefacts.
	Photo Murals	\$750	Production of Photo Murals to be placed on the screens providing contextual information about the people that resided and worked at Willsmere.
	Graphic Panels	\$1,500	Production of graphic panels to be placed on the screens providing descriptive information about the people that resided and worked at Willsmere
	Small text panels and labels	\$500	Introductory panel, labelling for water tanks, panel in attendant's room, panel in bedroom.
	Research	\$2,500	Research for photographs and historical records by ASAP Archivist/Historian to be used in the production of Photo Murals and Graphic Panels. 100 hours @ 25 p/h.
3.	Archives Archival Work	\$500	Documentation of Archival material held at Willsmere by ASAP Archivist/Historian and the production of a finding aid to this material. 20 hours @ 25 p/h.
	Acquisitions	\$500	Acquiring relevant material for the Archival Resource Collection
	Research	\$500	Research into relevant material for acquisition by ASAP Archivist/Historian. 20 hours @ 25 per hour.
	Reprographic Costs	\$300	Any extra costs for reproduction of photographs or any other material for the Willsmere Resource Collection.
4.	Museum And Interpretive Consultant	\$700	Dr Richard Gillespie, Consultancy and supervision for the initial stage of the project.
5.	Project Coordination	\$1,000	Co-ordination of project by ASAP Archivist/Historian. 40 hours @ \$25 p/h
6.	Management of Project - Overall	\$2,500	Project design, management, supervision, process and methodology. Production of reports and professional services of the Australian Science Archives Project. On site visits by ASAP Project Support Archivist
		\$15,400	Project planning and preparations would be conducted at the ASAP Office.



W/US HERE
 GALLERY AND
 MACHINE CENTRE
 PROPOSED LAYOUT
 OCT. '95 DRAWN RS.

